THURSDAY
October 17, 2024

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
18 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

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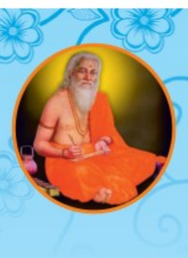
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 55 • No. 248

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

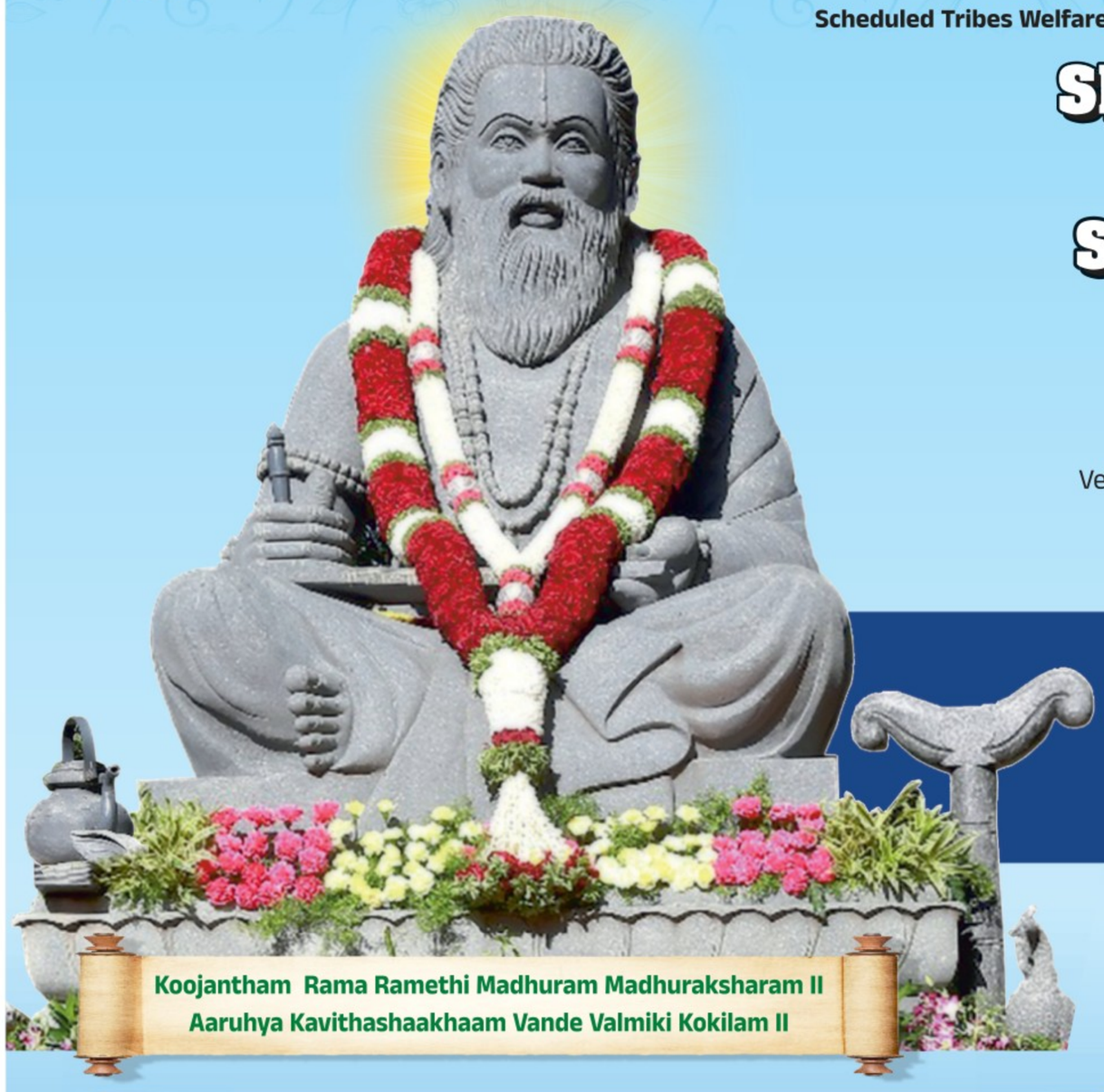
Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department

Shri Maharshi Valmiki Jayanthi
&
Shri Maharshi Valmiki Awards Presentation Ceremony

Date: **17.10.2024, Thursday**

9:30 AM - Garlanding the statue of Shri Maharshi Valmiki
Venue: **Shri Maharshi Valmiki Tapovana, Opposite to Legislatures House**

10:30 AM – Mainstage Programme
Venue: **Banquet Hall, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru**



Koojantham Rama Ramethi Madhuram Madhuraksharam II
Aaruhya Kavithashaakhaam Vande Valmiki Kokilam II

The "Valmiki Jyothi" procession to Vidhana Soudha starts from Shri Maharshi Valmiki Mahasamsthana Aadi Gurupeeta, Sri Bedara Kannappa Swamy Temple, Basavanagudi.

At Shri Basaveshwara Circle, a chariot carrying the portrait of Shri Maharshi Valmiki will join the procession accompanied by a performance of tribal artists.

Government's move...
Towards overall development and empowerment of
Tribal Communities...

- A separate Scheduled Tribes Welfare Secretariat was established in 2023-24.
- A Grant of Rs. 11447.51 crore has been allocated in 2024-25 under TSP for various developmental Departments.
- A Grant of Rs. 1722.44 crore has been allocated in 2024-25 to the Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department and Corporations for the implementation of various welfare Schemes.
- Effective implementation of SCSP & TSP Act, A grant of Rs.84988.33 crore allocated for the overall development of Tribal Communities under TSP for various developmental Departments from 2014-15.
- Shri Maharshi Valmiki Statue has been installed in Tapovana at premises of Legislatures House.
- Residential Educational facility provided to 86234 ST Students in 533 institutions.
- Basic Infrastructure facilities provided and 2368 Valmiki Bhavans has been sanctioned for ST Colonies.
- Rs. 205.10 crore was distributed to 5,50,000 Students for the year 2023-24 under the Scholarship Scheme
- Additional food items has been provided to 47859 families of 12 ST Communities worth Rs.140 Crore under Nutritious food scheme.
- Providing training for UPSC, KPSC & other competitive Examinations.
- Drone based Photography and videography training will be provided for 5000 ST youths.
- Students are being encouraged to study in foreign Universities under "Prabuddha" Scheme.
- Incentives were given in 2023-24 to 74,367 Students who passed 1st class in first attempt.
- Maharshi Valmiki Adivasi Tribal Residential Schools started Classes for 6th and 8th standards ; the sanctioned strength of the residential schools has increased from 14238 to 47600.
- Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd has been implementing, Integrated Ganga Kalyana Yojana, Self-Employment Programme, Prerana (Micro Credit) Yojana.

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

DELIVERED AS PROMISED...

Eradicating inequality through SHAKTI
Eradicating Hunger through ANNA BHAGYA
Eradicating Poverty through GRUHA LAKSHMI
Dispelling Darkness through GRUHA JYOTHI
Eradicating Unemployment through YUVA NIDHI

To safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the Fundamental Duty of every Indian.

CMofKarnataka https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in/

Karnataka Information

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NIJJAR KILLING

Five Eyes backs Canada in spat with India

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STUBBLE BURNING

SC raps Punjab, Haryana for inaction

NEWS » PAGE 11

DRY STATE

7 killed in suspected liquor tragedy in Bihar

NEWS » PAGE 10

FIGHT CONTINUES

The battle cry for justice in the 'City of Joy'

R.G. Kar case sets off a people's movement

EDITORIAL » PAGE 8

T20 WC SEMIFINAL

Australia has the edge against South Africa

SPORT » PAGE 15

NEARBY

Karnataka govt. launches Cauvery Stage V project

BENGALURU
Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said the State government will implement the Cauvery Stage VI project to ensure the future water needs of Bengaluru. He made this announcement after launching the Cauvery Stage V project for public use. » PAGE 2

Munirathna released after getting bail

BENGALURU
Munirathna, MLA, was released from prison on Wednesday, a day after he was granted bail in a rape case. The SIT is probing three cases against him — two in Vyalikaval police station in Bengaluru and one in Kaggalipura police station in Ramanagara. » PAGE 2

India, Pak. avoid blaming each other at SCO meeting

Jaishankar and Ishaq Dar interact 'informally' during the first visit by an Indian Foreign Minister to Pakistan in nine years; atmosphere of exchanges more positive than in previous encounters

Suhasini Haidar
ISLAMABAD

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and his Pakistani counterpart Ishaq Dar held an "informal interaction" at the conclusion lunch for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of Government meeting in Islamabad on Wednesday.

Officials confirmed the interaction even as a short video clip that appeared online showed the Ministers of the two countries speaking at a table seated next to each other.

The lunch was hosted by Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif who chaired the SCO session where, unlike on past occasions, both India's and Pakistan's national statements avoided contentious language on sensitive issues.

Key meeting: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad on Wednesday. PTI

According to sources, Mr. Jaishankar had also held a brief discussion with Mr. Dar at the SCO dinner on Tuesday evening as well, where they were joined by Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, who is also Chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board. Pakistan has been keen to host the Indian team as part of the Champions Trophy due to be held in Pakistan in early 2025, but the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has not confirmed their participation.

Officials stressed that the conversation was part of normal diplomatic discourse, given that Mr. Jaishankar was attending the lunch along with dignitaries from all 10 SCO nations including Russia, China, Iran, Belarus, and the central Asian states, and that "all leaders talked to each other during lunch and in the waiting lounge".

The exchange reflected a much warmer note than similar previous encounters, including at the SCO Foreign Ministers' meeting in Goa in 2023, and the UN General Assembly meet last month.

Leaving Islamabad at the end of what had been the first visit by an Indian External Affairs Minister to Pakistan in nine years, Mr. Jaishankar thanked Mr. Sharif and Mr. Dar, commending them for a "productive" meet.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Intensity reduces, but rains to continue till Oct. 20 in city

A flooded road in Bellandur on Wednesday . SUDHAKARA JAIN

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

While Bengaluru on Wednesday woke up to another rainy morning, as the north-east monsoon lashed the city for the second consecutive day, the intensity of rains reduced significantly compared to the previous day.

However, people in places like Kendriya Vihar Apartments in Yelahanka, Sri Sai Layout in Horamavu, and areas around Bellandur lake continued to struggle with the impact of flooding and inundation owing to Tuesday's rains.

Bengaluru city received 6.8 mm rainfall, HAL airport received 5.1 mm rainfall, and the Kempegowda International Airport received 5.6 mm rainfall between 8.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday. In contrast, Bengaluru city recorded 66.1 mm rainfall, HAL airport recorded 89.3 mm, and the Kempegowda International Airport recorded 9.7 mm rainfall for the 24 hours ending 8.30 a.m. on Wednesday.

According to Varuna Mitra, the 24/7 help desk of KSNDMC, Nagapura ward received 10.5 mm rain, the highest for the day.

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Centre increases MSP for wheat, five other rabi crops

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on Wednesday increased the minimum support price for rabi crops for the next marketing season of 2025-26 with the MSP for wheat going up by ₹150 a quintal.

The new MSP for a quintal of wheat is ₹2,425 in comparison to ₹2,275 per quintal, which was in place for the 2024-25 season.

The Centre said the MSP for six rabi crops are higher by 50% to 105% than the production cost. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the steady increase in the MSP of wheat, barley, gram, lentil, rapeseed and mustard, and safflower shows the commitment of the Narendra Modi government towards farmers' welfare. "Ensuring remunerative prices for farmers is our priority," he said.

This comes in line with the Union Budget 2018-19 announcement of fixing the MSP at a level of at least 1.5 times of the all-India weighted average cost of production.

DA HIKE APPROVED
» PAGE 11

Better support

PTI

The Cabinet increased the minimum support prices for rabi crops

Crop	MSP for rabi 2025-26*	MSP for rabi 2024-25*	Increase in MSP
Wheat	₹2,425	₹2,275	₹150
Barley	₹1,980	₹1,850	₹130
Gram	₹5,650	₹5,440	₹210
Lentil (masoor)	₹6,700	₹6,425	₹275
Rapeseed & mustard	₹5,950	₹5,650	₹300
Safflower	₹5,940	₹5,800	₹140

(*per quintal)

Omar takes oath as new Jammu and Kashmir CM

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

National Conference (NC) vice-president Omar Abdullah was on Wednesday sworn in as Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister.

At the ceremony presided over by Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha, Surinder Kumar Choudhary, took oath as Deputy Chief Minister. Five MLAs, three from Jammu and two from Kashmir, took oath as Ministers. Mr. Abdullah said the composition of the Council of Ministers was "meant to convey a message" to Jammu, where the BJP won 29 out of 43 seats.

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'GIVES JAMMU ITS DUE'
» PAGE 11

Grave hit

A view of a site damaged by an Israeli strike, amid the ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, in Qana, southern Lebanon, on Wednesday. REUTERS (REPORT ON PAGE 14)

MUDA chairman Mari Gowda quits

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/MYSURU

Amidst the controversy over alleged irregularities in Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA), its chairman, K. Mari Gowda, tendered his resignation from the post on Wednesday. A Congress leader and follower of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, he submitted his resignation to Urban Development Secretary Deepa Cholan in Bengaluru.

Speculation is rife that Mr. Gowda was instructed to step down by the Chief Minister, who is facing a probe over alleged irregularities in the allocation of sites by MUDA to his wife. However, Mr. Gowda told journalists that he had quit on his own volition owing to bad health and that the Chief Minister had nothing to do with it. Mr. Gowda is learnt to have met the Chief Minister before submitting his resignation.

K. Mari Gowda

Mr. Gowda has been in the dock ever since the Opposition started targeting the Chief Minister over alleged irregularities in MUDA. Some of the followers of Mr. Siddaramaiah recently shouted slogans against Mr. Gowda expressing their anger against him.

Mr. Gowda's resignation is being seen as an initiative towards sprucing up MUDA, which is shrouded in controversies. The Chief Minister's wife recently returned all the 14 sites that had been allotted to her by MUDA in return for her land that had been acquired by it.

'More to come'

Reacting to the resignation, activist Snehamayi Krishna, who has filed a private complaint against the Chief Minister on the alleged irregularities, told journalists in Mysuru that in the days to come, there will be more resignations, including of Mr. Siddaramaiah.

Mr. Krishna said Mr. Gowda resigned, owning moral responsibility as there was misconduct and wrongdoing, and the same yardstick should apply to others. "Mr. Gowda's resignation is tantamount to an admission of wrongdoing, and hence other political leaders, including Mr. Siddaramaiah, should also follow suit, and they are bound to resign in the days to come," said Mr. Krishna.

Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok urged the Congress to clarify reasons for Mr. Gowda's resignation if it was true that there were no irregularities.

Lock-up contingency fund in Karnataka doubled after a decade

Imran Gowhar
BENGALURU

The State government has increased the lock-up contingency fund given to the station house in charge after a decade, from ₹75 to ₹150 per detainee. The move aims at addressing rising costs of essentials, such as food, for suspects detained in police stations and reducing the burden of the station house in charge.

The government raised the amount from ₹16 to ₹75 in 2014 based on recommendation of the State Human Rights Commission.

However, owing to the steep hike in prices of essentials, a proposal was sent from the State police headquarters with a request to increase the amount to ₹300, as the present budget burdened the station house officers.

"The sharp rise in inflation and the subsequent increase in the prices of basic commodities have placed a significant strain on the resources allocated for detainees. With this adjustment, the government hopes to ensure that basic needs of suspects in custody are met, preventing issues such as food shortage and malnutrition during detention," said an official.

Considering the request, the State government increased the allocation. Officials from the State's law enforcement and correctional services applauded the decision, noting that the previous allocation had become increasingly insufficient. They also highlighted that the hike in the cost of essential goods had made it difficult to maintain the detainees' welfare under the old funding model.

While many police officials welcomed the decision, stating that it gives them some respite, they also said that the revised amount is not enough for two square meals, and they continue to spend money from their pockets to provide decent food. "Usually, detainees are kept for 24 hours, and we have to provide food, water, and whatever they ask for. For this, ₹150 may be too little. These days, it's difficult even to get sandwiches for this amount," said a police officer.

"Because of the meagre amount and the tedious process of asking GST bills, not many people opted for it. There relatives of the accused ended up bearing the expenses, which led to corruption of a different kind," said a police officer.

CMYK
M BG-BGE

From missing big medals to nailing the bigger one — the Swapnil story

The 50-metre rifle 3-position shooter, who lost the plot after being in pole position at major events in the run-up to the Olympic Games, turned it around with a podium performance in Paris as expert guidance, diligent preparation and Himalayan patience do the trick

Kamesh Srinivasan

RITU RAJ KONWAR

THE GIST

- Swapnil transformed his weakest link — standing position — into his strongest through rigorous training
- The shooter credited Deepali for the big role she played in his journey
- His ultimate target: a gold medal at the Olympics

There is serenity about Swapnil Kusale. There is simplicity in his demeanour. For an Olympic medallist, he retains the pristine character and underplays his achievement. He reminds that an Olympic gold is the goal, underlining the point that the mission is on.

Swapnil showed the audacity to defy the odds, and the best in the world, to win a bronze in the 50-metre rifle 3-position in the Paris Olympics. His category is one of the toughest in the Olympic shooting programme as one has to master shooting in the kneeling, prone and standing positions. There are so many variables that need attention. Compared to 10-metre air rifle, the 50-metre rifle 3-position is complicated as a shooter has to fire at a target five times the distance.

The celebration was subtle and even as the interviewers tried hard to trigger some excitement in Swapnil, he came up with short and measured answers.

"Winning the gold is my dream and ultimate goal. The next step is to win an Olympic gold for India. The bronze is just one step closer to that. I learnt a lot during the Paris Games and will add that to my journey... keep working towards my destination," said Swapnil, in a free-wheeling conversation.

There was no question of the celebrations and felicitations distracting him from the Go For Gold assignment. "I am trying to enjoy everything that is going around me," he said.

While those following Indian shooting closely were aware of Swapnil's ability to strike the best medals, the others did not have a hint as he had not won anything exceptional in the lead-up to Paris, except for the World Cup silver in Baku in 2022. In fact, Swapnil had become 'famous' for missing the big medals in the Cairo World Championships and Hangzhou Asian Games.

In October 2022 in Cairo, when he won the Olympic quota, Swapnil missed a medal narrowly (0.3 points) in a format different to the one in the Games. In the Asian Games the next year, Swapnil was gunning for gold before a 7.6 derailed him and finished outside the podium by a close margin (0.8 points).

Instead of feeling gutted, Swapnil was fired up by these setbacks. "It was important to make sure that what happened [the mistakes] in Hangzhou and Cairo was not repeated in Paris. I worked with psychologist Vaibhav Agashe very closely on this. I was taught to handle such tough situations. I was told not to ponder much over them but look at the process and factors in my control. That improved my performance," he revealed.

Despite not being at his best in the kneeling and prone positions, Swapnil stood tall in the standing segment.

"If you are competing in the Olympics, you need to be strong in all three positions. I knew I had to work on my standing position and make it stronger. During the training camps, I focused more on it. Deepali (Deshpande) and I worked together on making it better, deciding to concentrate on the next shot instead of the one earlier. It worked wonders. After the drill at the camps, it was easy to perform at the Olympics," said Swapnil.

Influential role

Olympian Deepali played an influential role not only in preparing Swapnil – their partnership has lasted more than a decade – but also other rifle shooters (Anjum Moudgil, Sift Kaur Samra, Shriyanka Sadangi, Akhil Sheoran and Arjun Babuta). She was the National coach when the shooters competed in the Tokyo Olympics. Deepali stayed home and opted to operate remotely during the Paris campaign.

The seasoned Manoj Kumar, the National coach this time, did a remarkable job. "We had the best preparation going into the Olympics, particularly in the 50-metre event. Our shooters had given a fair hint of their prowess during the Asian Games in Hangzhou. We won five of the six possible medals, including two gold and two silver.

"Sift had a world record to boot. Only Swapnil had missed a medal. Even in the World Championships, the men's team won a medal for the first time. Akhil finished on the podium at the World Championships later. I was sure that we could do something in the 50-metre competition," said Manoj.

He explained that a specific task was taken up every month, including the key aspect of finding barrel-matching quality ammunition for the leading shooters. "We had competitions in Poland and Swapnil got a lot of confidence there, shooting high scores of 594 and 595 in qualification," Manoj said.

The coach emphasised that he knew Swapnil was capable of winning a medal, but the only concern was his patience.

"I asked him to give his 100%, showing patience and preparation for each shot. Usually, he takes an hour to finish his qualification. In one training match in windy conditions, he was done in 45 minutes. I told him he had to learn and not just throw away the ammunition," said Manoj.

Fortunately, Swapnil took it positively and worked patiently on his shot-preparation. "In the final, he was in the zone and looked good for gold," recalled Manoj. Swapnil missed a bigger medal by the barest of margins (0.1 point).

The coach revealed that Swapnil had switched off his mobile 10 days before the Paris sojourn and considerable effort was taken for the steady 'no movement' during his standing position. "We had to ensure a balance in training for the three without overdoing a position or under-training in another," said the coach.

The Olympics had a new rule: the final will be held the day after the qualification. That provided the world-class shooters time to recover and refocus. "After qualification, I was very hungry as I had not had breakfast. At the Games, you have butterflies in the stomach and in no mood to grab a bite before the competition. I went to an Indian restaurant and had my fill," said Swapnil.

Physio and nutritionist chip in

"It was back to the normal routine of taking rest and working on my physical fitness. Physio Sumita (Jain) was very helpful. My nutritionist, Kalyani (Mankar), kept a close watch on my diet all along. I used to send her photos of my meals and she would approve, ensuring that I ate the right things at the right time. As I am lactose intolerant, I need to be extra careful. As I have vegetarian food, everything had to be right. A disciplined diet is vital for an athlete," he said.

Was it easy or difficult to sleep well the night before the final?

"No athlete can sleep before a final and it was the same with me. It was a disturbed sleep, but I made up my mind to get proper rest. After the training before the event, the confidence level soars," said Swapnil, adding that he was mentally prepared to compete in the final the same day or the next. After going through many formats, he knew the trick for delivering his best.

"When the final is on the second day, we have a little more time to prepare, but it is important to use it well. A lot of athletes feel the pressure during such situations. I used to be with the physio because I felt quite comfortable, and that helped me a lot," he said.

The key to Swapnil's success was the way he used the knowledge and experience of the experts around him.

How did he tap into the best of the three coaches (Deepali, Manoj and former World champion Thomas Farnik, who had made three Olympic finals)? "I used to inform Deepali about my training because I have worked with her since my younger days. The three coaches share a good bond and were all supportive," he said.

Though it was a collective decision that Deepali would not take the flight to France, did Swapnil miss her during the Games? "Madam had prepared us well for the Paris Olympics. She noticed the important things... what was needed and what was not needed for me. She motivated me a lot during my Paris days. She boosted my confidence by saying that I was ready for all challenges. It felt like she was with me in Paris," said Swapnil.

He also recalled how, around two years back, he had to send his rifle with Akhil Sheoran and Shriyanka Sadangi for barrel testing and buying the right ammunition.

"The ammo we got at that time was so good that I used it in Cairo and Hangzhou. I had saved it to use some at the Olympics as well. In February this year, the whole team went barrel testing. We trained very hard there. Whenever we trained outside, we learnt new things that built our confidence," said Swapnil.

Deepali, however, felt that the preparation could have been slightly better, especially in terms of the time at the Olympic shooting range in Chateauroux, but felt that she was right in staying home as the rifle shooters had prepared with depth and focus.

"Swapnil did have a lot of complaints before the team left from the Bhopal camp, but after his pre-event training in Paris, he felt better," said Deepali, who competed in the 2004 Athens Olympics and had worked diligently with the junior shooters as the National coach.

"We could have had better results. Arjun (Babuta) was best prepared, but was unlucky to miss a medal. He had just one nine, a 9.9 in the final, and he was perhaps rattled. Right through the qualification (60 shots), he did not have a single 9," said Deepali.

The coach did confess that Sift, in her maiden Olympics, probably needed her presence in Paris. "It has been a spectacular rise for Sift but she had not seen the downside. You do tend to go down a bit and it happened for her at the Olympics," felt Deepali.

Swiftly shifting her focus to Swapnil and his medal-winning run, Deepali said the 29-year-old shooter had the advantage of being strong and physically fit right through his career.

Deepali had first seen Swapnil in 2013 when he was close to making the final at the National championship.

"Swapnil has a strong self-image. He believes that he is a good shooter and that adds to his confidence. Soon after his first year, he was beating experienced shooters like Gagan Narang and Chain Singh. The missing aspect of quality equipment was well addressed as we got the right weapon and ammunition. Over the years, Swapnil and Akhil have handled the format and equipment changes. You need to keep adapting to the tweaks, and tune the motor skill," said Deepali.

Conceding that the Olympic Games was a different ball game, Deepali felt that it was important to show patience and alacrity. Now that the blanks of the previous two Olympics in Rio and Tokyo have been filled with three medals in Paris, she is confident that the next Olympic cycle would see a quantum jump in performance.

"After Swapnil won, he showed me the medal on video. He was at peace, not flamboyant," said Deepali. "This is just the beginning. We will have golden shows in the next Olympics at LA (Los Angeles)".

Swapnil flanked by Farnik and Manoj.

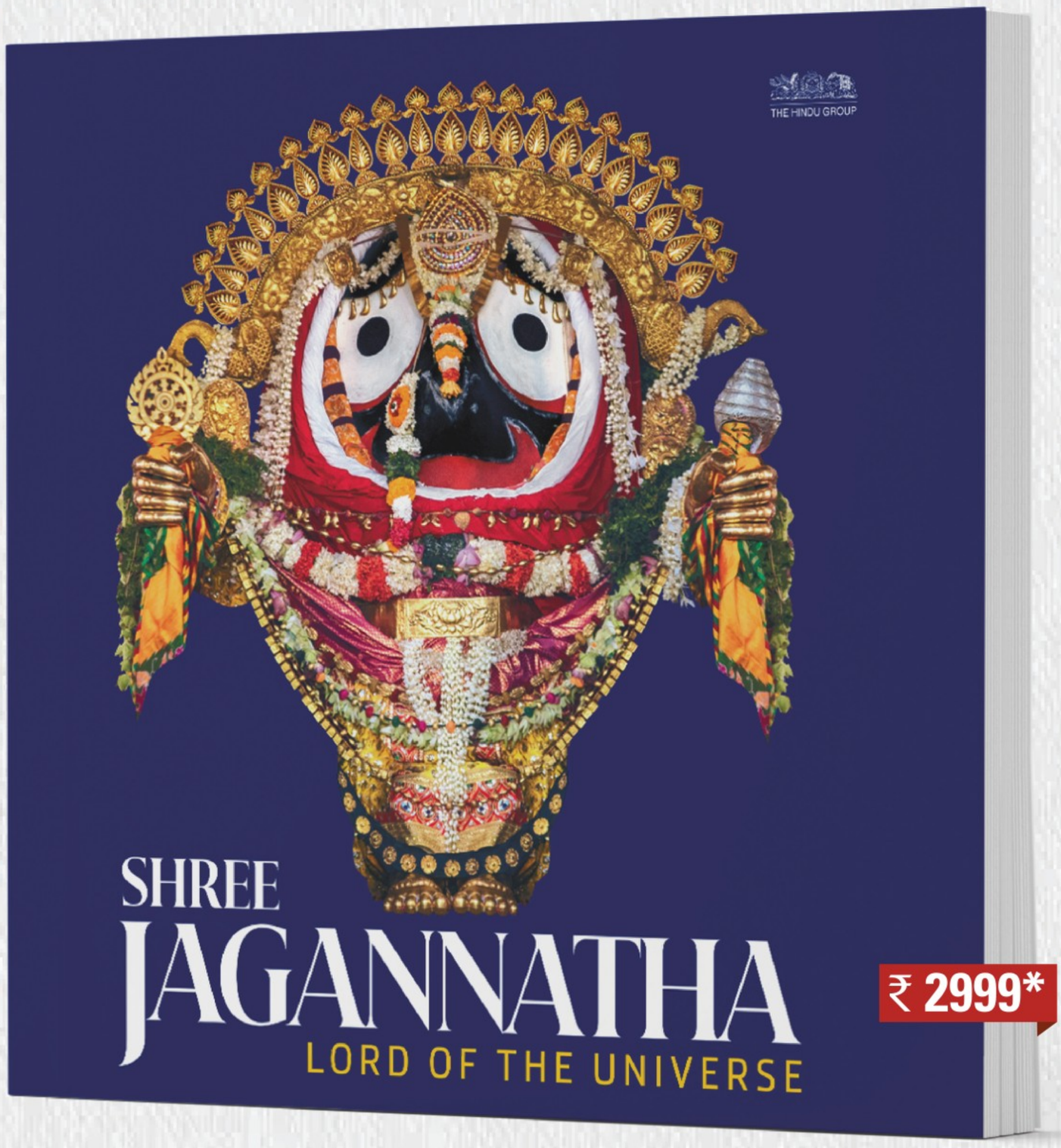
Swapnil and Deepali.

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION FROM THE HINDU GROUP

THE HINDU GROUP

Shree Jagannatha- Lord of the Universe is a picture-rich coffee-table book on the fascinating Lord Jagannatha temple in Puri, Odisha.

The book is a collection of pictures and articles by well-known writers from Odisha on culture and religion. It covers the temple's history, the unique rituals that characterise Jagannatha-worship and, of course, the famous Ratha Yatra.



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BJP claims credit for project

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BJP has sought to claim credit for the Cauvery V Stage drinking water scheme that was launched on Wednesday, by saying that it was the erstwhile BJP government that initiated the project in 2019.

"The BJP government led by B.S. Yediyurappa had entered into a memorandum for getting a loan of ₹5,500 crore for the project whose implementation began on January 01, 2019. Later, the Basavaraj Bommai government too had given importance to the project implementation. We had completed implementation of nearly 80% of the project," claimed Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok.

Accusing the Congress government of showing discrimination against Bengaluru in terms of allocation of development funds, Mr. Ashok urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to release comparative statistics on the funds allocated by the Congress government, the erstwhile BJP government, and the Centre for Bengaluru development.

He stated that ₹8,000 crore had been given by the erstwhile Basavaraj Bommai-led government for the development of Bengaluru city roads and another ₹1,600 crore for building storm-water drains.

Govt. announces Cauvery Stage VI project to cater to city's water demand

BWSSB officials directed to plan for the new phase, which will bring an additional six thousand million cubic feet of water to the city, with an increase of 500 MLD in the daily supply

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said the State government will implement the Cauvery Stage VI project to ensure the future water needs of Bengaluru.

Mr. Siddaramaiah made this announcement after launching the Cauvery Stage V project for public use on Wednesday. The event was held at T.K. Halli in Malavalli taluk of Mandya district.

Through the Cauvery Stage V project, 2,225 MLD of water is being supplied to meet the needs of the city. The total cost of the project is ₹4,600 crore. Before Stage V, the city was supplied with 1,450 MLD of water daily, and now an additional 775 MLD was added, he said. The water will be supplied to 110 villages which were newly added to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

To ensure a consistent supply for the city's growing demands, directions have been given to the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) officials to plan for the Stage VI project, he said.

Big plans: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah launching the Cauvery Stage V project in Mandya on Wednesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The new phase will bring an additional six thousand million cubic (tmc) feet of water to the city, with a daily supply increase of 500 MLD.

Alongside this, the government plans to construct nine new sewage treatment plants (STPs) with a combined capacity of 500 MLD to manage the waste generated.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said the cost of supplying drinking water through this phase is estimated at ₹5,200 crore, while the construction of the STPs will require an additional ₹2,000 crore. In total, the ₹7,200 crore project aims to ensure adequate water for all residents of Bengaluru. "Our goal is to make Bengaluru a water-surplus city by ensuring proper supply to every corner of the city," said the CM.

CM slams JD(S), BJP

Mr. Siddaramaiah, lashing out at the JD(S) and the BJP, said the Cauvery Stage V was delayed owing to a lack of will and their apathy, and said they did not pump in money that was to be shouldered by the State government and the BWSSB.

"The government had borrowed about 84% of the project cost from JICA. The rest should have been funded by the State and the BWSSB from its coffers. The previous BJP government and Mr. Kumaraswamy did not provide funds for the same," he alleged.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said while the State government is spending money to develop Karnataka, the Union government has done injustice by not providing a reasonable share in taxes. Karnataka had paid ₹4 lakh crore GST, but in return, the State received a mere ₹60,000 crore, he claimed.

On the other hand, the Centre has not granted environmental clearance for the Mekedatu project, Mr. Siddaramiah said, adding that if a balance reservoir is set up under the Mekedatu project, it is beneficial for Tamil Nadu too.

Project is proof of our development works: DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar, after inaugurating the Cauvery Stage V drinking water project on Wednesday, said that the project which extends to serve one-fourth of Karnataka' population is a testament to his government's efforts.

Mr. Shivakumar said: "This project is not just about Bengaluru's 110 villages. It impacts a large part of Karnataka. The foundation of this project was laid by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah during his first term, and it's a joy to see it inaugurated during his second term".

Addressing critics, he remarked: "There were those who doubted projects like Yettinahole and criticised the damaged crest gate at Tungabhadra dam. But as criticism fades, good works prevail. The successful completion of this project is proof of that."

Mr. Shivakumar also highlighted the government's broader water security initiatives for Bengaluru, stating: "We have worked for Bengaluru's water security and delivered with the Cauvery Stage V project. Our efforts, like the Mekedatu rally, show our commitment."

'Probe phone usage in central prison'

THE HINDU IMPACT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Taking a strong exception to inmates in the central prison allegedly accessing mobile phones to issue threats to a witness in a murder case, the city civil and sessions court on Monday directed the Department of Prisons to probe in detail how phones were accessed inside the jail.

The Hindu in a report on October 12, 'Rowdy sends threat messages to auto driver from jail', wrote about a rowdy sheeter allegedly issuing a threat to a 22-year-old autorickshaw driver on his social media account from the central prison.

During a hearing of the murder case, the wife of Joseph Bali, who was the prime witness in the case, told the court that she was getting threats from the accused who allegedly killed her husband at a bank in Koramangala in 2021.

The accused allegedly threatened Armugam Magesh, a friend of the deceased and a witness to the incident, via a voice message threatening him with dire consequences if they deposed before the court.

The court pointed out lapses on part of the prison superintendent for allowing inmates access to phones. The court also directed investigating officials to provide necessary security cover to witnesses till the conclusion of the trial .

Joseph Babli, 35, a resident of Rajendranagar slum, was chased by men and hacked to death in front of his wife and minor daughter inside the bank in Koramangala.

The police arrested the accused and remanded them in judicial custody. "Since the evidence against the accused is strong, they are threatening witnesses to derail the trial," a police officer said.

Fearing for his life, Magesh, an autorickshaw driver, stopped going to work, while his wife, who is also a witness, was finding it difficult to visit the court and depose. He alleged that several rowdies and goons would gather in the court hall to create a fear psychosis among the witnesses. When this was brought to the notice of the court, it directed the advocate representing the accused to issue necessary directions to refrain them from such activities.

CCB officials probing the case have taken the accused into custody for further investigation.

Meanwhile, the prison officials continued to recover mobile phones from prison while conducting surprise checks. Assistant Superintendent of Prison Imamsab Myageri and his staff recovered phones with SIM cards and handed them over to Parappana Agarahara police on Monday.

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, OCT. 17	
RISE 06:10	SET 18:00
RISE 17:55	SET 05:45
FRIDAY, OCT. 18	
RISE 06:10	SET 17:59
RISE 18:43	SET 06:46
SATURDAY, OCT. 19	
RISE 06:10	SET 17:59
RISE 19:35	SET 07:49

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	22	20

Bengaluru Today
23°C The intermittent spelle of heavy to very heavy rain and thundershower with gusty winds and moderate lighting will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
25°C The weather will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower with gusty winds to occur.

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THE HINDU
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BIS celebrates World Standards Day

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Bengaluru, celebrated World Standards Day on the theme "Shared vision for a better world" on Monday, October 14.

Ramandeep Chowdhary, Secretary, State Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs and Legal Metrology,the chief guest, emphasised the importance of standards in every aspect of life, the theme of World Standards Day 2024 and how standards help in shaping the future of younger generations.

Mr. Chowdhary said that standards are the foundation stones of trust between consumer industry and governments in different fields and stated that standards ensure safety, quality and efficiency.

Sudhakar, outstanding scientist, U.R. Rao Satellite Centre, ISRO, in his presidential address emphasised on this year's goal of sustainable development goal (SDG) 9: Industry Innovation and Infrastructure by using artificial intelligence (AI).

He stated that AI is dominating everyone's life and explained the new innovations in the space sector and implementation of a large number of Indian standards in ISRO and other defence sectors.

Vijayaveeran K., director and head Bangalore branch, Nagamani T., director and Head Bengaluru laboratory felicitated the Stakeholders, All India First licensees, active mentors of the standards clubs of BIS, resource personnel for standards promotion activities and long-standing licensees were felicitated on the occasion.

Darshan moves HC seeking bail

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Actor Darshan on Wednesday moved the High Court of Karnataka seeking bail in the Renukaswamy murder case.

He moved the High Court as the trial court on Monday declined to grant him bail. The High Court is likely to hearing his petition next week. The actor has been arraigned as accused No. 2 in the charge sheet.

Renukaswamy, employed at a medical shop in Chitradurga, was kidnapped and murdered at a shed at Pattanagere in R.R. Nagar on June 8. The crime came to light the next day, when a security guard of an apartment complex spotted the body near a storm-water drain. The accused had allegedly tortured the victim.

Munirathna released after being granted bail

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Munirathna, Rajarajeshwarinagar MLA, was released from the Bengauru prison on Wednesday, a day after he was granted bail in a rape case.

The Special Court of Sessions for criminal cases against former present MPs and MLAs, while granting bail, directed Munirathna to appear before investigators whenever needed, and not to leave the court's jurisdiction without prior permission. Munirathna was also directed to refrain from threatening witnesses.

Munirathna

The SIT is probing three cases against him – two in Vyalikaval police station in Bengaluru and one in Kaggalipura police station in Ramanagara.

The MLA has been booked under multiple sections, including rape, sexual harassment, voyeurism, criminal intimidation, extortion, promoting enmity between different groups, word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and sections of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, जामताड़ा

शुद्धि–पत्र

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय के अल्पकालीन ई0–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना स0–RDD/SD/JAMTARA/03/2024-25, PR-330134 Rural Department (24-25) D द्वारा निविदा आमंत्रित किया गया था। परन्तु अपरिहार्य कारणवश उक्त निविदा को तत्काल प्रभाव से रद्द किया जाता है।

ह0/–
कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल,
जामताड़ा।

PR 339117 Rural Development(24-25)D

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & VETERINARY SERVICES,
Office of the Commissioner, Pashupaalana Bhavana, 1st Floor, Opp. to CBI Office, Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru-560 024.
Email : commissionerahvs@gmail.com Ph: 080-23412767.

No: CAH/VMS/ASCAD/VACCINE/ Tender/2024-25 Date: 16-10-2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(KPP portal mode Only)

The Commissioner of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore hereby invites bids through KPP portal from eligible bidders **For Supply Of Blue Tongue And Rabies Vaccines Under Ascad Scheme To Veterinary Institutions for the Year 2024-25** for which the tendered Amount is **Rs. 441.00** lakhs. Complete tender documents can be viewed by visiting website No: KPP portal from Date: **16.10.2024** and tenderers can upload all the necessary documents through KPP portal from **16.10.2024 to 15.11.2024** till 17.30 hours. Further information can be obtained from KPP Portal and this office during office hours.

Sd/- Deputy Director, Veterinary Medical Stores
Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services,

DIPR/CP/2577/Zen/2024-25

244 register with BBMP to take part in initiative to feed stray dogs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As many as 244 caretakers have come forward to participate in the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) new initiative to feed stray dogs, launched as part of 'Festival of Dogs' on October 17. This programme is part of the BBMP's broader plan to tackle the growing stray dog issue and reduce dog-bite cases in Bengaluru.

The BBMP, in collaboration with animal activists, pourakarmikas, and hotel owners, aims to ensure stray dogs are adequately fed, reducing aggressive behaviour often linked to food scarcity.

The initiative will be piloted in areas like Manjunathnagar, Bagalagunte, and Pottery Town by December, where stray dogs will be provided with meals sourced from leftover food from restaurants, Indira Canteens, and other donors.

The programme will be structured to avoid large gatherings of dogs in one area, preventing potential aggressive interactions. FILE PHOTO

Registered volunteers, along with pourakarmikas, will identify feeding spots and times to ensure the safety of both humans and animals. The programme will be structured to avoid large gatherings of dogs in one area, preventing potential aggressive interactions. Pourakarmikas will receive training and safety gear to aid them in their new role as dog feeders.

RELATED REPORT ON
» E-PAPER PAGE 5

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public are hereby informed that, our client **Mrs.Ramadevi V.** has **lost** the original last page No.6 of Sale deed dated 08-05-2006, registered as document No.4283/2006-07, in respect of property bearing Municipal No. New 9, Situated at **Sampige Road, S B Palya (Subbaiahnapalya) Bangalore,** (old as portion of Site No.10, in property No.200/1 at **Subbaiahnapalya, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk now East Taluk,** while taking Xerox at S.R.Nagar. If anybody found the said document please contact this **Nos.9844155041 and 8050544133.**

V.S.Rai & Associates, LAW FIRM
No. 23, "Venkatadri" 6th Main,
5th Cross, S.R.Nagar, Bangalore-560027.
Ph : 080-22223949, 9844155041.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEE/TRD & GSU/JP, acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for following works. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **S.N.** 1 **NIT No.** : EL-GSU-JP-2024-25-04 **Name of work** : TRD Work in connection with proposed loop Line-5 at BNWS yard in JP-MD Section of Jaipur Division. **NIT cost (Rs.)**: 2,74,12,742.22 **Bid Security (Rs.)** : 2,87,100.00 **Tender opening date** : 06.11.2024 **Date & time of closing e-tenders :** On tender opening date Upto 15.00 hrs **Date & time of opening e-tenders :** On tender opening date after 15.00 hrs **Complete details of tender can be seen on website** : http://www.ireps.gov.in

1194-DR/24

Please join us on /NWRailways NWRailways_

Government of Karnataka
Ayanur Sub Forest Division, Shivamogga
No.: ACF/Tender/CR-01/2024-25 Date: 15.10.2024

Short-Term Re e-Tender Notice
(Through e-Procurement Portal)

Short-Term Re-Tenders are invited through e-procurement portal as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000 from interested Forest contractors registered in Forest Division as Forest Contractors for the year 2024-25 and having experience of growing of saplings of various sizes, advance works for forming of plantations and having experience of having carried out similar works as put to tender and having their own Sapling Nursery in the limits of the zone where works have to be carried out and having necessary facility for growing of saplings for implementation of "Advance Works (including growing of saplings)" as mentioned in the Annexure under Head of Account 4406-Capital Outlay on Forestry & Wildlife-01-Forestry-101 - Forest Conservation, Development and Regeneration - 0 - 02 - Flexi Fund - 139-MW for the year 2024-25 in forest areas coming in the limits of various forest zones of Shivamogga Regional Forest Division. Last date for submitting tenders for the said works is fixed on 22.10.2024 up to 4.00 PM. For further information this office can be contacted during office hours and details of the Tender can be obtained through the official website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests,
Ayanur Sub Division, Shivamogga

DIPR/smg/ksmca/24-25/56/10/855

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture,
BBMP, R.R. Nagar Zone, Bengaluru - 560 091.

No: SADH/RRN/TENDER/9/2024-25 Date: 16.10.2024

SHORT TERM RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (RR Nagar Zone), BBMP, Bengaluru (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to implement in accordance with KTPP Rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department for Horticulture Maintenance of Emergency Works.

Sl. No.	Name of work
1	Annual Maintenance of Borewell in Yeshwanthapura Constituency Parks, R.R. Nagar Zone. **Estimate Cost:** Rs.20,00,000/- **EMD Amount:** Rs.50,000/-. **Stipulated period of completion:** 12 Months. **Category:** Others.

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender can be downloaded from KPP Portal of GOK from : **19.10.2024** onwards. 2) Pre-bid meeting: **21.10.2024 at 11.30 a.m.** 3) Tender Closing date: **25.10.2024, at.5.00 p.m.** 4) Technical Bid opening date: **28.10.2024 at 11.30 a.m.** 5) Financial bid opening date: **After approval of Technical Bid.**

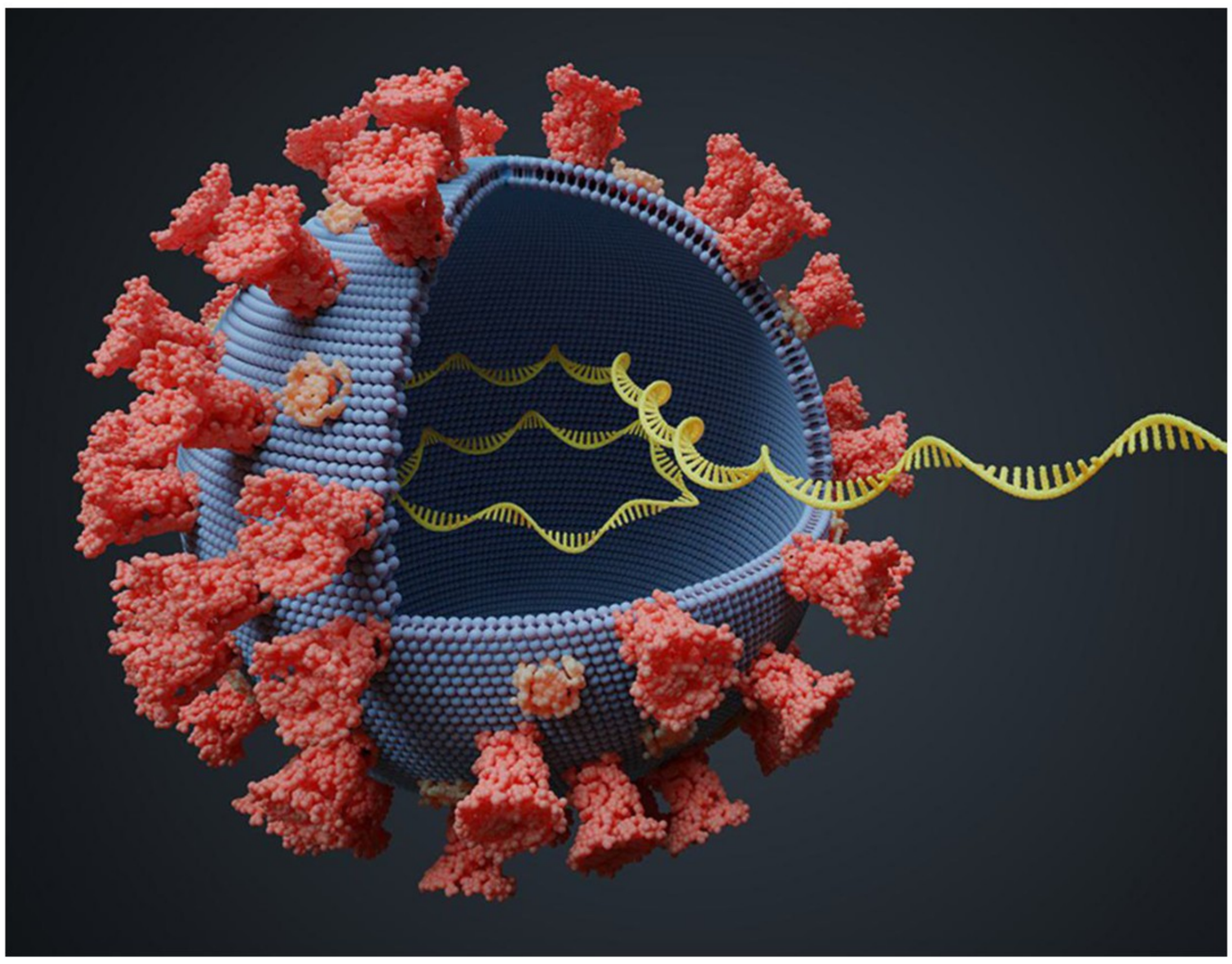
Further details can be had from the office of the above during office hours on all working days or from the KPP portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (R.R. Nagara), BBMP

Nobel for microRNA underscores the primacy of RNA in biology

When Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun won the Nobel Prize last week, 581 clinical trials involving miRNA had been registered in the U.S. alone. Of these, 215 had been completed and 20 had been terminated over safety concerns, showing the importance of its role in finding cures

Arun Panchapakesan



Every cell in an organism contains a copy of its DNA, the blueprint for how to build and maintain that organism. The building and maintenance activities are achieved by molecules called proteins. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

In 1993, two post-doctoral researchers named Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun independently published back-to-back papers in the December 3 issue of the journal *Cell*. In their papers, they described how the roundworm *Caenorhabditis elegans* uses a small RNA molecule to control the production of a protein.

While the work was certainly novel, it did not receive much attention at the time because other scientists thought the phenomenon was unique to worms and of no practical relevance to understanding its role in other life-forms, including humans.

It was not until seven years later that Ruvkun found a similar mechanism existed in nearly all of the animal kingdom. The paper created waves in the scientific community since it represented a whole new paradigm in molecular biology, with potentially far-reaching implications on human health and disease.

Last week, Ambros and Ruvkun were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their discovery of microRNA and the latter's role in gene regulation, a process universal to all cells.

What, when, where, why

Every cell in an organism contains a copy of its DNA, the blueprint for how to build and maintain that organism. The building and maintenance activities are achieved by molecules called proteins; the DNA contains instructions on how cells can make these proteins.

Every protein has a specific function. For instance, haemoglobin is responsible for carrying oxygen from the air we breathe to the cells in the body. Each set of instructions to make a given protein from the organism's total DNA is called a gene.

The DNA of humans has between 19,000 and 20,000 genes. While all cells in the body contain all these genes, and thus the information on how to make all the proteins, no cell makes all 20,000 proteins. Gene expression – the process of reading the information in a gene to make a protein – is specific to cell types. A given cell will only make those proteins it needs for its function. Thus the red blood cells make haemoglobin but not the cells that make up the stomach.

When a cell wants to make a protein, it first makes a transient copy of the gene called the messenger RNA (mRNA). The information in the mRNA is then used to make the protein. This process of making an mRNA copy of the information in the gene is called transcription. A gene is transcribed to mRNA to make a protein only in those cells where that protein is required.

Once the mRNA is made, the cell will continue to make proteins until it is stopped. The protein production process must be stopped when enough proteins have been made because if it isn't controlled, excess protein, apart from being a waste of resources, can be harmful to the cell.

For a long time, this halting of protein production, called post-transcriptional gene regulation, was thought to occur when the mRNA degrades – either on its own (due to its low stability) or aided by special enzymes that the cell makes.

Ambros and Ruvkun essentially identified a new way in which cells regulate protein production. They discovered the existence of tiny RNA molecules called microRNA (miRNA) that bind to mRNAs and prevent protein synthesis.

A vital cellular process

Chemically, miRNA is made of the same material that makes up mRNA. The difference lies in their sizes: RNA is composed of a combination of four chemical bases arranged on a sugar-phosphate backbone, rather like a long bead of strings made of four coloured beads arranged at random. Their length is therefore measured in how many beads, or bases, they contain. Thus, mRNAs range from hundreds to lakhs of bases, while the average miRNA is just 22 bases long.

The composition of these 22 bases – or the order of arrangement of the beads on the string – depends on which mRNA a given miRNA is going to target. Usually, the sequence of bases of an miRNA is complementary to a stretch of bases on the target mRNA, making it specific to that mRNA. Once the miRNA binds to its target, the target mRNA is either marked for destruction or is unable to serve as a template to produce protein, thus switching protein production off. This way, if needed, miRNAs can inhibit the synthesis of a given protein even before it begins.Since Ruvkun's report of the first human miRNA in 2000, researchers have discovered thousands of new miRNAs, playing roles in regulating almost 60% of all human genes.

Switching off protein production at the right time is a vital cellular process. Therefore, it was no surprise when researchers found miRNAs to play pivotal roles in animal development, the differentiation of cells into their correct types, cell division, cell death, and – importantly – response to stress and disease, especially in various cancers.

Ambros and Ruvkun essentially identified a new way in which cells regulate protein production. They discovered the existence of tiny RNA molecules, called microRNA that bind to mRNAs and prevent protein synthesis

The high specificity of miRNAs made them ideal candidates for targeted therapies for conditions like cancer, which involve abnormal protein production. But despite their potential, the story of the research on the clinical utility of miRNAs does not have a very happy beginning.

RNA is important

The rapid academic progress on miRNAs prompted scientists to test the therapeutic potential of miRNAs. Early experiments in mice gave encouraging results, where researchers were able to inhibit the formation of lung tumours using miRNAs.

The first clinical trial of a human miRNA, called miRNA-34a, soon followed in 2013. But the technology to deliver the mRNA to the target cells was not as well developed then as it is now; as a result, scientists had to administer extremely high doses of the molecule to ensure a small amount would reach the target site. This had the unfortunate consequence of triggering an immune response. When four patients died, the investigators immediately stopped the trial.

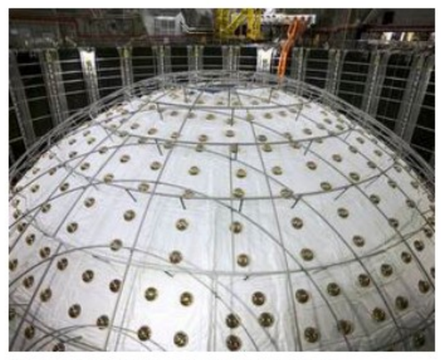
Scientists later made significant advances in packaging and delivering miRNA, allowing others to test multiple other miRNAs against various diseases – including hepatitis C, multiple cancers, and cardiovascular diseases.

When Ambros and Ruvkun won the Nobel Prize last week, 581 clinical trials involving miRNAs had been registered in the U.S. Of these, 215 had been completed and 20 had been terminated over safety concerns.

Since other alternatives are available for most of these conditions, miRNA's time in medicine has yet to come. Hopefully the Nobel Prize will change this field's fortunes: despite the challenges it faces in therapy, miRNAs' relevance to physiology and medicine is unquestionable. This is why Ambros and Ruvkun were awarded the Nobel Prize despite the absence of therapeutic applications.

This is also the fifth instance of a Nobel Prize being awarded for RNA research: mRNA vaccines won in 2023; RNA interference in 2006; RNA's role as enzymes in 1989; the discovery of mRNA in 1965. Indeed, scientists are slowly understanding that RNA, not DNA, is at the core of the delicate balance cells must maintain.

(Arun Panchapakesan is an assistant professor at the Y.R. Gaithonde Centre for AIDS Research and Education, Chennai. arun.panchapakesan@gmail.com)



The Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory (JUNO) in Kaiping, Guangdong province, China. REUTERS

Chinese lab that seeks to crack physics mystery nears completion

Reuters

A giant sphere 700m underground with thousands of light-detecting tubes will be sealed in a 12-storey cylindrical pool of water in the coming months for an experiment that will shine new light on elusive subatomic particles known as neutrinos.

After years of construction, the $300-million Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory (JUNO) in China's southern Guangdong province will soon start gathering data on neutrinos, a product of nuclear reactions, to help solve one of the biggest mysteries in particle physics.

Every second, trillions of extremely small neutrinos pass through matter, including the human body. Mid-flight, a neutrino, of which there are three known varieties, could transform into other types. Determining which types are the lightest and the heaviest would offer clues to subatomic processes during the early days of the universe and to explaining why matter is the way it is.

To that end, Chinese physicists and collaborating scientists from all over the world will analyse the data on neutrinos emitted by two nearby Guangdong nuclear power plants for up to six years.

JUNO will also be able to observe neutrinos from the Sun, gaining a real-time view of solar processes. It could also study neutrinos given off by the radioactive decay of uranium and thorium in the earth to better understand mantle convection driving tectonic plates.

Scientists are mulling relaying long-distance messages via neutrinos, which pass through solid matter such as the earth at near light-speed

Due to go operational in the latter half of 2025, JUNO will outpace the far larger Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE) under construction in the U.S.

Institutions collaborating on JUNO hail from locations including France, Germany, Italy, Russia, the U.S., and even self-governed Taiwan, which China claims as part of its territory.

Neutrino observatories are also being constructed in other places. "The one in the U.S. will be six years behind us. And the ones in France and Japan... will be two or three years later than us. So we believe we can get the result of mass hierarchy (of neutrinos) ahead of everybody," Wang Yifang, chief scientist and project manager of JUNO, said.

So far, real-life neutrino applications remain a distant prospect. Some scientists have mulled the possibility of relaying long-distance messages via neutrinos, which pass through solid matter such as the earth at near light-speed.

Researchers are keeping their distance from politics to focus on the science, although they remain at the mercy of governments providing the funding.

The passage of neutrinos from the two power stations will be logged by JUNO's 600-tonne spherical detector, which will immediately transmit the data to Beijing electronically. The data will be simultaneously relayed to Russia, France and Italy, where it can be accessed by all of the collaborating institutions, said Cao Jun, JUNO's deputy manager.

For data on the more crucial aspects of the experiment, at least two independent teams will conduct analyses, with their results cross-checked. "When these two groups get a consistent result, we can publish it," Cao said.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Remembering a star that was briefly the brightest...

Vasudevan Mukunth

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

QUESTION 1

This star has gone by the names 1ES 1727-21.4, GCRV 67121, and PN G004.5+06.8, among others. But before the modern era, it was known simply as X's star, after a German astronomer who described its appearance in a 1606 book. Name X.

QUESTION 2

The book (from Q1) had the extended title *On the New Star in the Foot of the Serpent Handler*. This was because the star was located in a constellation called Serpentarius in Latin. Its common name is _____, from the Greek. Fill in the blank.

QUESTION 3

This star became famous in 1604 when it went supernova, producing light of such intensity that it remains the most recent Milky Way supernova confirmed to have been visible to the naked eye. But in its time, it was the second such star in 32 years. Name the first.

QUESTION 4

What type of supernova (from Q3) explosion did the star undergo? Hint: Astronomers routinely use such supernovae as "standard candles" because they emit a fixed amount of light at their peak and thus indicate how far away they are.

QUESTION 5

Name the German astrologer with whom X (from Q1) had debated the features and causes of the supernova event, including the Copernican theory that the Sun, not the earth, was at the centre of the universe.

Answers to October 15 quiz:

1. Names of connections between neurons and nodes – **Ans: Synapses and weights**
2. Model that shot to fame during the 2006-2009 Netflix Prize – **Ans: Restricted Boltzmann machine**
3. Generic name for states to which Hopfield network models tend – **Ans: Attractors**
4. Paradox relating protein structure to computation time – **Ans: Levinthal's paradox**
5. Object of AlphaFold's study when analysing amino acid sequence – **Ans: Multiple sequence alignment**

Visual: **Alan Turing**

First contact: Dalbeer Pharswan | K.N. Viswanathan | Anmol Agrawal

Visual: Identify the astronomer in this picture and specify the question number with whose answer he is connected. CREDIT: PUBLIC DOMAIN

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Residents have that familiar sinking feeling

After the earlier damages and assessments based on government promises, many of them had spruced up their houses in the hope that they had left the worst of their troubles behind

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

We were promised last year by the Chief Minister, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahangara Palike (BBMP), and our MLA that our layout will not be flooded anymore. Hence, I replaced a lot of my furniture, got all of my doors changed, and rented out my house after the last damage. Yet, here we are again with water up to our knees and deep inside our house," lamented Neelufur Ahamed, a resident of Sri Sai Layout in Horamavu.

Many residents of this layout spruced their houses in the hope that there would not be anymore rain damage. But the incessant rains on Tuesday which also continued into Wednesday left all streets of the layout flooded, affecting about 200 houses.

On Wednesday, the sounds of pump motors, tractors ferrying people could be heard and seen in the layout.

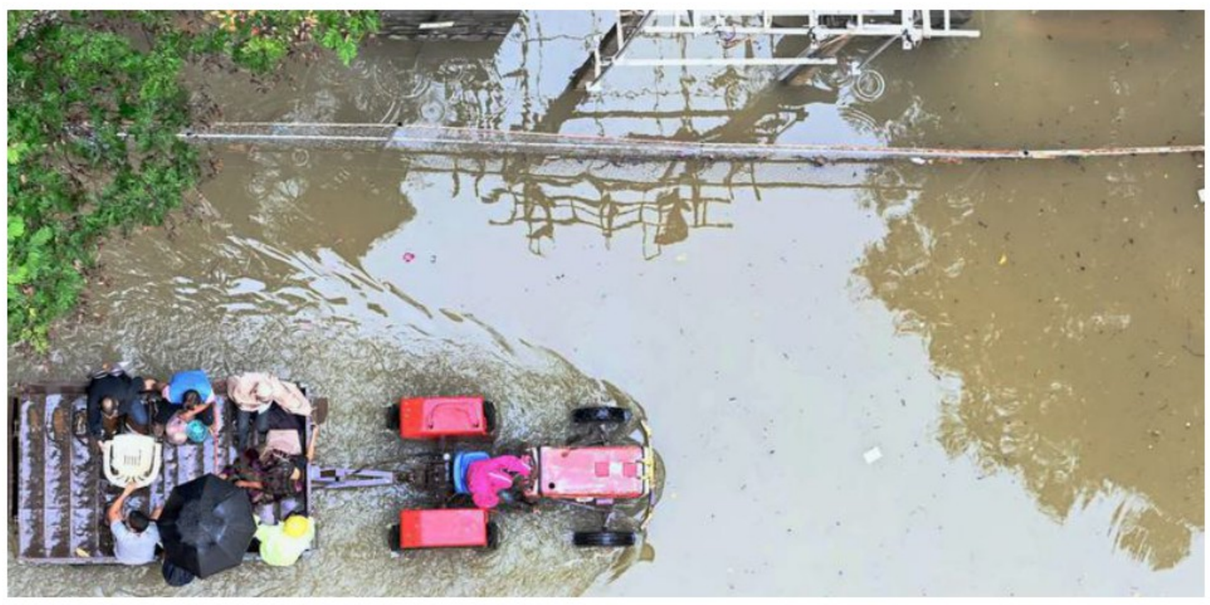
The residents alleged that although their layout was not considered a low-lying area before, owing to the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) acquiring and increasing the height of a land parcel nearby, the layout gets water from all sides.

When an auto began to float

An autorickshaw carrying a passenger on Kariyammana Agrahara Road in Bellandur entered a severely flooded stretch on Wednesday and tilted to one side and began to float.

The driver and the passenger started walking carefully and made it to safe ground. With the help of those nearby, the auto was brought to an upright position.

For Anmol, the passenger, it was a "once-in-a-life-time experience". "I go to the office every day on this route and whenever it rains, the road gets flooded. What happened today was a unique experience and I quite enjoyed it," he joked.



Beast of burden: Tractors that were arranged to assist residents with transportation in and out of Kendriya Vihar Apartments at Yelahanka in Bengaluru on Wednesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

"For this, we were told that a vent will be built along the railway track and that will prevent flooding. They told us that work had started on it. But now they are saying that the flooding is because of water coming from the Hebbal and the Challakere lakes and other storm-water drain complications," Ms. Ahamed said. The residents claimed that it will take at least three days for the water to subside.

Deja vu

As for Kendriya Vihar Apartments in Yelahanka, this is the second time in two weeks this year that the premises were flooded. Most people were packing bags and heading for their relatives' or friends' houses on Wednesday, as there was no power and no easy way to travel with the apartment towers being surrounded by water. Tractors were the only mode of commute as water was almost three feet deep in some areas.

"Measures taken up by the BBMP two years ago helped us a lot. But this time, owing to construction activity nearby, materials piled up near two of our walls. When it rained consistently, the two walls collapsed leading to water coming inside. What we now seek from the civic body is a permanent solution to ensure that the water does not come inside our premises," said Uday Kumar, a member of the residents' welfare association.

The residents in both of these affected areas have gotten used to this weather-induced situation. Association members, youngsters, and other proactive citizens went around distributing food, water, medicines, and other basic supplies.

IT corridor

The Outer Ring Road, which runs along the IT corridor of the city, was one of the worst-affected areas in Tuesday's rainfall. The situation was somewhat better on Wednesday, but a ride on the road proved to be hectic with multiple potholes which were sometimes unrecognisable owing to the stagnant water.

Although the water had receded in most parts, some areas around Bellandur lake were still flooded. When *The Hindu* visited those areas, a delivery person on a two-wheeler took a fall near Kariyammana Agrahara in Bellandur while driving on a slightly flooded, pothole-ridden road.

"The main channel of the SWD connecting Bellandur and Varthur lakes opens up near Kariyammana Agrahara. The road was recently dug up and construction is going on this road as well. It gets flooded with every rain," said Seema Sharma, a resident.

Many videos went viral claiming that a wall had collapsed inside the Manyata Tech Park leading to flooding. The Embassy REIT refuted these claims. "Some videos/posts being circulated of a wall collapse are not from Embassy REIT or Embassy Manyata properties," it said.

Tree fall hits metro services

Namma Metro services were disrupted on the Purple Line on Wednesday between 6.15 a.m. and 8.05 a.m. after a tree obstructed the operations between S.V. Road and Indiranagar stations.

Trains were only running between Baiyappanahalli and Whitefield, and M.G. Road and Challaghatta during that time.

The BBMP received 47 complaints about trees falling and 57 complaints about tree branches falling on Wednesday.

Most ward-wise rains at Konena Agrahara and HAL airport

Location-wise details of rainfall*

Anekal Neriga station	152.5 mm
Bengaluru North Somashettihalli station	102.5 mm
Anekal Mugaluru station	92.5 mm
Bengaluru North Chikkabanavara station	90 mm
KSNDMC Campus-SPT station	89.5 mm
Bengaluru North Shivakote station	88 mm
Yelahanka Vidyaranyapura station	80.5 mm
Yelahanka Jakkur-1 station	75.5 mm
Bengaluru East Doddagubbi station	74 mm
Yelahanka Jakkur-2 station	73 mm

*From 8.30 a.m. of Tuesday to 8.30 a.m. of Wednesday

Source: Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As Bengaluru woke up to another rainy morning on Wednesday as the north-east monsoon continued to lash the city for the second consecutive day, rainfall data for Tuesday, when incessant rains threw life out of gear, showed that Konena Agrahara and HAL airport received the highest ward-wise rainfall.

According to Varuna Mitra, the 24/7 helpdesk of the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre's (KSNDMC), ward wise, the highest rainfall recorded was 92 mm at Konena Agrahara and HAL airport (from 8.30 a.m. of Tuesday to 8.30 a.m. Wednesday).

Chowdeshwari and Vidyaranyapura received 89.5 mm each and Jakkur received 75.5 mm during this period.

KSNDMC said based on the rainfall data received from the Telemetric Rain Gauge stations during last 24 hours across the State, widespread rain observed in 20 districts. It added that fairly widespread rains were observed in five districts (Chamarajanagar, Bagalkot, Mandya, Yadgir, and Kodagu).

According to the India Meteorological Centre, Bengaluru recorded 66.1 mm rainfall, HAL airport recorded 89.3 mm rainfall, and Kempegowda International Airport recorded 9.7 mm rainfall for the 24 hours ending 8.30 a.m.

The aftermath: Bengaluru woke up to another rainy morning on Wednesday as the north-east monsoon continued to lash the city for the second consecutive day. A view of Kendriya Vihar Apartments at Yelahanka. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Widespread rainfall in Kalaburagi

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

Several parts of the Kalaburagi district received light rain to moderate overnight rainfall, recording 19.4 mm of rainfall against a normal rainfall of 3.5 mm in the last 12 hours (from Tuesday evening to Wednesday morning).

Rain lashed several parts of the district and the downpour that started around 8 p.m. on Tuesday continued till the early hours of Wednesday.

Low-lying areas in the city, including Lalgeri Cross and Old Jewargi Road (railway underbridge) were water-logged due to blocked drains and culverts affecting traffic movement for some time.

As per data provided by Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre, Jewargi taluk recorded the highest rainfall of 27.2 mm, followed by Chittapur taluk with 26.5 mm and Kalagi taluk with 26 mm rainfall.

Afzalpur taluk recorded 25.2 mm rainfall, Yaddrami taluk 24.7 mm rainfall and Shahabad taluk 20.7 mm rainfall in the last 12 hours.

Kalaburagi taluk received 18.7 mm of rainfall. Sedam and Chincholi taluks recorded 17.9 mm and 15.8 mm rainfall, respectively. The lowest rainfall of 7.9 mm was recorded in Kamalapur taluk.

Elsewhere in the Kalyana Karnataka region, Yadgir district recorded 9.3 mm rainfall against a normal rainfall of 2.3 mm; Bidar district received 4.4 mm rainfall and Raichur 2.1 mm rainfall.

The flooded Rashtrapati Chowk in Kalaburagi on Wednesday, after the downpour overnight. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

For the city's office-goers, home is where the art is

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As Bengaluru continued to witness rains on Wednesday, several companies allowing remote working and a State government advisory recommending the same came to the aid of office-goers.

By Tuesday evening, several IT companies, GCCs, and other private organisations announced work-from-home for their employees. This came as a relief to those who struggled to make their way to the office on the day amid traffic snarls, flooding, and difficulties in finding rides.

Everyone *The Hindu* spoke to demanded that work-from-home option should be granted to employees during inclement weather, as commuting on such days poses safety and health risks. While the most demand came from the IT sector, some were also from sectors such as BFSI, teaching, and other services.

"Commuting to office is a nightmare if it rains and that has been the case for the past few years in Bengaluru. Considering that the situation is not improving, companies should announce work-from-home on days when heavy and continuous rains are predicted. Uneven roads on ORR when flooded pose a major risk to commuters, especially two-wheeler drivers. If something happens to us, who will take responsibility?" asked Suraj K., who works at a tech company near ORR.

A biker makes his way through a flooded road at Bellandur. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Many who have their offices at the Manyata Tech Park, one of the worst-affected areas in the rains, also decided to stay home on Wednesday.

"I was informed that water was cleared by yesterday [Tuesday] evening. Nevertheless, we didn't want to risk it. So, we are all working from home," said a start-up founder whose company is located at the tech park.

A few others who have hybrid work policies made use of it. "The company officially did not issue any circulars. But we need to go to the office only two days a week. So, I decided to stay home on Tuesday and Wednesday," said Prathibha Augustine, who resides in Indiranagar and works at an IT company nearby.

Now, BBMP faces a deluge of problems

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As many localities in Bengaluru were left flooded after heavy rains on Tuesday, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) deployed tractors to assist residents in movement and evacuation and the civic body's chief Tushar Giri Nath, along with a team of officials, visited areas to assess the situation.

Concerning Kendriya Vihar Apartments in Yelahanka, which experienced severe flooding, he said, "A temporary drain is being constructed on private land adjacent to the existing canal.

Once completed, the water will be diverted through this drain."

The BBMP chief explained that Yelahanka lake has two outflow channels, or kodis. The northern kodi directs water toward Kendriya Vihar Apartments, and efforts are being made to reduce the water flow from this channel.

"As the water level increases in the southern kodi, the northern kodi's flow will decrease. Immediate measures are being taken to manage this," he added.

"Water is not flowing as there are not enough vents owing to the national highway in the surrounding areas. This was noticed by the BBMP two years ago, but the National Highways Authority of India gave approval to go ahead with the existing vents and not bigger ones, which are causing flooding in these areas. There are farmlands also in the surroundings that will be affected by this," Mr. Nath added.

"Both the Kendriya Sadan and Manyata Tech Park are being flooded as their water flowing systems have been diverted. This is not owing to the negligence of the BBMP," Mr. Nath added.

The BBMP chief also inspected Ramana Shree Layout and California Layout, where a diversion channel had previously been built to prevent water from entering these areas. Despite these efforts, rainwater had entered the layouts.

From Page One

Intensity reduces, but rains to continue

C.S. Patil, scientist, India Meteorological Department (IMD), said the inference is that the depression over southwest Bay of Bengal about 320 km east-southeast of Chennai is very likely to move west-northwestwards and cross north Tamil Nadu-South Andhra Pradesh coasts during early morning of October 17.

"Coastal Karnataka, north interior Karnataka and south interior Karnataka are likely to experience widespread rainfall on October 17. Thereafter, the intensity of rainfall is likely to decrease over the State, but the spatial distribution of rainfall is very likely to continue upto October 20. Bengaluru city is very likely to experience moderate rainfall on October 17," Mr. Patil said.

The maximum and minimum temperatures in Bengaluru were 22.1°C and 19.6°C on Wednesday.

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The funds approved by the Cabinet for PM-AASHA

35,000 In ₹ crore. The government has approved funds for PM-AASHA with an aim to provide remunerative prices to farmers. PTI

Number of Indian flights disrupted by hoax threats

10 At least 10 flights have been disrupted due to bomb threat messages received by airlines. The issue of hoax threat messages to various airlines has led to the diversion of flights including one bound for Chicago. PTI

Magnitude of the earthquake recorded in eastern Turkey

5.9 The tremor was felt at Kale in Malatya, a province which was hit by the violent 7.8-magnitude earthquake which struck on February 6, 2023. This time, the tremor was strongly felt in several large cities. AFP

The number of people killed in a fuel tanker explosion in Nigeria

94 A fuel tanker explosion in northern Nigeria has killed at least 94 people and left 50 injured. Many victims had been trying to collect fuel spilt on the road after the tanker crashed in northern Jigawa. AFP

Palestinians killed in the Gaza Strip since October 7, 2023

42,409 The toll includes 65 deaths in the last 24 hours, according to the health ministry in Gaza. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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How firms like Samsung view labour

Why is the South Korean electronics giant adamant on not recognising the Samsung India Workers' Union? What is Kaizen, the Japanese production method, and how does it influence East Asian capital? How do Chaebols operate in South Korea?

EXPLAINER

Anand P. Krishnan

The story so far:

On October 15, the Tamil Nadu labour department announced that the month-long strike at Samsung's manufacturing facility in Sriperumbudur has ended after successful negotiations between the workers and company management. The Samsung India Workers' Union (SIWU), affiliated to the Centre for Indian Trade Unions, announced the withdrawal of the strike and said they will return to work on October 17. While workers have raised various economic demands such as an incremental increase in their salaries over the next two years, at the heart of their protest is the demand for the recognition of SIWU. The management has continued to stonewall this particular demand, and the workers have resorted to the judicial route, with the matter now pending before the Madras High Court.

When did Samsung India start?

The South Korean company, Samsung commenced its operations in India in 1995. The biggest generator of revenue for the company in India are smartphone devices, with most of these manufactured at its second plant in Noida, Uttar Pradesh. Its facility in Sriperumbudur was established in 2007, and produces consumer durables such as televisions, refrigerators, washing machines and air conditioners. It employs close to 5,000 workers. In 2022, the company signed an MoU with Tamil Nadu government, through an investment of ₹1,588 crore, to set up a new plant to produce compressors for refrigerators.

How do East Asian firms view unions?

Forming a workers' union in a foreign-owned enterprise in India is a challenge in itself, with the need to pass through several political-bureaucratic loops to get it registered. However, getting it recognised by the management has often proved to be even more difficult. Labour subordination and disciplining has remained the default setting of most East Asian companies operating in India, especially in the past two decades. Some notable workers' protests in different parts of India have been at manufacturing facilities with East Asian capital – Honda Scooters and Motorcycles in 2005, Maruti Suzuki in 2011-12, Wistron in 2020 and Foxconn in 2021. The stressful working conditions in these factories are shaped and determined by their management philosophy, which largely draws inspiration from the Japanese production method called Kaizen – that is, continuous improvement to increase work intensity and reduce idle time. Over the years, through offshore supply chains, global manufacturing in the electronics industry has been reordered into just-in-time production – a system in which products are created to meet demand rather than in surplus or in advance of need. As companies adopt this model to increase efficiency, the output is ramped up ahead of product launches and peak sales periods. It leads to punishing work ethic, regimented culture of rules and unyielding deadlines.

It is in this context that the demand for representative associations is pertinent from a labour-centric perspective. However, past experiences – the ready reference being Maruti Suzuki workers' struggles to form a union – reflect the reluctance of managements. They remain extremely wary of unions, especially those with communist affiliations, and are apprehensive of their militant actions. As is visible in the present case, while there has been some conciliation towards other demands, Samsung has remained adamant on not recognising SIWU.

Across borders: The National Samsung Electronics Union workers shout slogans in front of the Samsung Electronics Nano City Hwaseong Campus in Hwaseong, South Korea on July 8. REUTERS

What about labour in South Korea?

Companies in South Korea such as Samsung are called Chaebols. These are large, diversified business conglomerates owned and controlled by families or their close kin for generations. Chaebols have dominated South Korean economy since the 1960s and have also had significant links to the country's polity. Their origins can be traced to the encouragement and support provided by the authoritarian military dictatorship to rebuild the economy post the Korean war in 1953. The export-led growth strategy of Chaebols was dependent on their labour management strategies which was a combination of minimising labour costs, and intensification of work. Since then the work environment has moved from militaristic labour control and subordination in the 1970s to more paternalistic management practices such as welfare schemes and subsidies in later years. According to scholars Seung-Ho Kwon and Michael O'Donnell, as independent trade unions emerged in the country in the 1980s, the Chaebols brought in automated production systems, introduced external subcontractors and restructured as well as decentralised their operations to curb labour power (including transnational investments). Presently, Samsung, founded by Lee Byung-chul in 1938, is the country's largest Chaebol.

What are the concerns for India?

The prolonging of the strike causes concerns for both central and State governments – for the former, regarding India's manufacturing ambitions and becoming an alternative to China, and for the latter, who are forced to strike a balance between attracting foreign investments and signifying its political-governing philosophy of dignity and justice. The resolution of the issue is therefore a matter of prestige and urgency rather than any pro-labour development.

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THE GIST

- The South Korean company, Samsung commenced its operations in India in 1995. The biggest generator of revenue for the company in India are smartphone devices, with most of these manufactured at its second plant in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
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What does the Global Hunger Index 2024 state about India?

Why has the Ministry of Women and Child Development raised concerns over the data collection method?

Saptaparno Ghosh

The story so far:

The Global Hunger Index for 2024 states that a 'serious' level of hunger is prevalent in India. It ranks India 105th among 127 countries, giving it a score of 27.3. A score below 9.9 indicates low levels of hunger, 10-19.9 moderate, 35-49.9 alarming and above 50 extremely alarming.

What does it state about India?

The score is based on four broad parameters, that is, child stunting (share of children under five with lower height proportional to their age, reflecting chronic undernutrition), undernourishment (share of population with insufficient caloric intake), child wasting (share of children under five with lower weight proportional to their height) and child mortality (share of children who die before their fifth birthday). The report traced 13.7% of the population to be undernourished, 35.5% of children as stunted, 18.7% of children wasted and 2.9% of children dying before their fifth birthday. As per the survey, India has the highest child wasting rate globally.

However, the analysis states that India has demonstrated "significant political will" to transform the food and nutrition landscape – pointing to the National Food Security Act, Poshan Abhiyan (National Nutrition Mission), PM Garib Kalyan Yojna (PMGKAY) and National Mission for Natural Farming. But the report argues there exists room for improvement. To illustrate a solution, the report points to the co-relation between the poor nutritional status of mothers being transferred onto their children. There exists an 'intergenerational pattern of undernutrition' where the factors driving India's high child wasting rate entail mothers inflicted with insufficient weight gain during pregnancy and low birth weight among infants.

What about India's GDP growth?

The report states that the relationship between per capita GDP growth and low levels of hunger is "not always direct or guaranteed". In other words, GDP growth alone does not result in improved food and nutritional security for the entire populace. Thus, the report puts forth the imperative for policies to emphasise pro-poor development alongside addressing social/economic inequalities.

What solutions does it propose?

Broadly, the report proposes a multifaceted approach such as improved access to social safety nets, addressing complementary factors relating to well-being and nutrition, alongside dedicated approaches to assessing and provisioning nutritional needs. The first of the proposed measures entail improved access to safety nets and cash transfers. These, the report states, involve improving access to programs such as the Public Distribution Scheme (PDS), PMGKAY and Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS). Other than this, it proposes investments in agriculture and a holistic food systems approach which promotes diversified, nutritious and ecological food production including nutri-cereals such as millets.

Other dedicated approaches include making effective investments in mother and child health. It recommends a set of factors such as improved water, sanitation and hygiene, among other things. Finally, the report also seeks interventions to consider links between food and nutrition, gender and climate change.

What is the debate about data collection methodology?

The previous year, the Ministry of Women and Child Development had expressed concerns about the data not being accessed from their ICT application 'Poshan Tracker'. The Ministry pointed out that UNICEF, WHO and the World Bank have acknowledged the tracker as a "game-changer". It observed child wasting being consistently below 7.2% on a month-on-month basis as compared to the 18.7% stated in the 2023 index. However, researchers have maintained that they use survey estimates that have been vetted for inclusion in the Joint Malnutrition Estimates and/or the WHO Global Database on Child Growth and Malnutrition. It argues that using the same data source ensures that the numbers are produced using comparable methodologies. "Introducing exceptions to this process for any country would compromise the comparability of the results and the ranking," it states.

THE GIST

- The Global Hunger Index for 2024 states that a 'serious' level of hunger is prevalent in India.
- The score is based on four broad parameters, that is, child stunting (share of children under five with lower height proportional to their age, reflecting chronic undernutrition), undernourishment (share of population with insufficient caloric intake), child wasting (share of children under five with lower weight proportional to their height) and child mortality (share of children who die before their fifth birthday).
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development have expressed concerns about the data not being accessed from their ICT application 'Poshan Tracker'.

Channapatna bypoll: Yogeshwar declares himself candidate; BJP-JD(S) to make announcement in two days

The BJP leader surprised everyone on Wednesday by holding a meeting of his supporters in Channapatna

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BJP and Janata Dal (Secular) leaders are set to meet and finalise the candidate for the Channapatna Assembly constituency, which has turned out to be tricky, over the next couple of days.

While the BJP top leaders are said to have agreed in-principle that a decision on Channapatna should be made by JD(S), BJP leader and former MLA C.P. Yogeshwar is said to be adamant about contesting from Channapatna.

Mr. Yogeshwar surprised everyone on Wednesday by holding a meeting of his supporters in Channapatna where he exuded confidence about getting ticket to contest the bypolls. He even said: "Even though I will be contesting, it is Mr. H.D. Kumaraswamy who is the real candidate from here."

Janata Dal (S) leader and Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy, who vacated the Channapatna seat after being elected from Mandya Lok Sabha constituency, arrived in Bengaluru late on Wednesday night, and is set to meet his party leaders and BJP leaders for consultation to ensure a consensus candidate.

Bypolls to the three Assembly constituencies – Sandur, Shiggaon, and Channapatna – will be held on November 13. FILE PHOTO

For the remaining two seats, Shiggaon and Sandur, the BJP core committee is set to review the list of candidates in two to three days and forward it to the party high command.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok said the NDA partners would finalise candidates for all three Assembly seats in a day or two after consulting Mr. Kumaraswamy. On the Channapatna bypolls, he said already he had held a round of consultations with a few JD(S) leaders and further discussion would be held with Mr. Kumaraswamy.

JD(S) sources said that the seat remained prestigious for the party since it was vacated by Mr. Kumaraswamy. "We definitely have the agenda to defeat the Congress, but at the same time we do not want to become a pawn in someone else's politics. We are also aware that victory to the Congress would strengthen Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar." When asked if Nikhil Kumaraswamy would contest, sources said "chances are bleak."

Meanwhile, former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai told media persons that the BJP State core committee had already discussed the names of potential candidates for the constituencies. He said he has no desire that his son should contest the elections, and that he has not proposed his name.

Congress too to pick candidates soon

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Congress is also set to finalise the candidate for three Assembly constituencies in the next couple of days. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Wednesday held discussions with AICC general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal over candidate selection for three Assembly constituencies going for bypolls.

"Mr. Venugopal has made certain suggestions. He has also asked both to send the list of candidates for each constituency and send only one name if there is consensus," sources in the CMO said.

Mr. Shivakumar later said: "We have already held consultations over candidate selection and they will be finalised."

The Congress sources said that the candidate for Channapatna will be finalised after watching BJP leader C.P. Yogeshwar's move. "If Mr. Yogeshwar does not come to the Congress, there are possibilities of former Bengaluru MP D.K. Suresh or MLC Puttanna contesting from the seat," he said.

Candidate selection in Shiggaon and Sandur may not create much problems for the party, sources said.

Nagendra walks out of jail; says ED tried to arm-twist him into naming CM and Dy. CM in Valmiki 'scam'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Minister and Congress MLA B. Nagendra, who was released from the central jail in Parappana Agrahara, Bengaluru, after he was granted bail in connection with the alleged multi-crore scam in the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd., alleged that the Central agency officials brought pressure on him to name Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar in the "scam".

The Congress legislator from Ballari, who has been described as the "mastermind of the scam" by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), alleged that the BJP was making efforts to destabilise the Congress government in the State.

B. Nagendra FILE PHOTO

'Harassed for 3 months'

"They harassed me for three months and tried to destabilise the government. Though I have no role in the scam, I was arrested. The ED has come under pressure from BJP leaders several times. Through me, they have tried to destabilise the government," he told pressmen here soon after his release from the prison. He further claimed: "The ED pressurised me to name Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar, but I refused. When I have no role in the scam, where does their role come from?"

Mr. Nagendra, a former Minister for Scheduled Tribes Welfare, was arrested by the ED on July 12 in connection with the alleged ₹89.63 crore scam in which money was siphoned off from Sri Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation's bank account to several bank accounts illegally. The ED claimed that the money was diverted to fund the elections in Ballari Lok Sabha during May this year.

The irregularities had come to light after an official of the corporation, allegedly fearing punitive action, committed suicide. According to the Chief Minister's Office statement on Tuesday, the government managed to recover about ₹76.54 crore of the total misappropriated money and about ₹13 crore is yet to be recovered.

Mr. Nagendra said that the scam took place at the bank level and the State government had no role in it, and that the BJP leaders had "conspired" in the scam. "Even after the SIT cleared my name, ED arrested me." He also refuted claims that he had recommended the transfer of money.

'Without authorisation'

When specifically asked where the ED wanted him to name the Chief Minister, he said that they wanted to drag Mr. Siddaramaiah's name as he heads the Finance Ministry. "Money has been transferred without any written authorisation. Bank officials have transferred the money without verifying KYC when the model code of conduct was in place. This is not a scam connected to the State government but a bank scam. Neither Mr. Siddaramaiah nor I knew about it. The ED is trying to drag his name."

On the ED charge that part of the money was used for the Lok Sabha elections, he said that the money was not misused, and the SIT investigation said there has been no misuse of funds in election.

HC notice to State on plea questioning legality of allowing Auqaf Board to issue marriage certificates

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Wednesday ordered issue of notice to the State government on a PIL petition, which had questioned the legality of the notification issued last year authorising the Karnataka State Board of Auqaf and its Wakf officers in the districts to issue marriage certificates to married Muslim applicants.

A Division Bench passed the order on the petition filed by A. Alam Pasha, founder of NGO – The Helping Citizen and People's Court, Bengaluru.

The petitioner contended that the notification issued on September 30, 2023, authorising the board to register marriages is contrary to the provisions of the Wakf Act, 1995. "The notification is beyond the legislative mandate of the Wakf Act as this law does not empower the Wakf Boards to register the marriages of Muslims," the petitioner contended.

Pointing out that though marriages based on personal laws is valid in the eyes of law, it was contended that registration of all marriages in the State will have to be as per Karnataka Marriages (Registration and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976, which provides uniform law for registration of marriages.

Civic groups write to CM, Chief Secretary recommending blanket ban on crackers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Drawing the attention of the Chief Minister, Chief Secretary, Pollution Control Board, and other allied departments to the online sale of non-green crackers in Karnataka, like-minded civic groups have recommended a blanket ban on all crackers this festival season as the only choice for proper implementation of the 2016 Supreme Court orders on green crackers.

In a representation submitted to the Chief Minister, Chief Secretary, and other authorities concerned, members from Public Health Action Team (PACT), The Compassionate City, C.J. Memorial Trust, Namma Bengaluru Foundation, All Creatures Great and Small, NAZ Foundation, and CARE said it is appalling to see the sheer number of online stores selling non-green crackers. Listing a few online stores selling crackers, the groups asserted that there was an urgent need to address the use of firecrackers.

Civic groups have said it is appalling to see the sheer number of stores selling non-green crackers. FILE PHOTO

Priya Chetty Rajagopal from The Compassionate City said they have communicated to top State officials suggesting a blanket ban on crackers in Karnataka as the only solution for proper implementation of rules.

"The burning of non-green/non-eco friendly firecrackers releases significant pollutants into the atmosphere, including particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10), sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, antimony, lithium, mercury, arsenic, lead, and various heavy metals. Studies have shown that these pollutants can lead to severe respiratory issues, cardiovascular diseases, and exacerbate existing health conditions, particularly among vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly and people suffering from chronic pulmonary diseases," she said.

Harini Raghavan from PACT, who recalled the death of 17 people in a fire at a cracker shop in Attibele last October, said a blanket ban should be imposed until all stakeholders come together for proper implementation of rules on green crackers.

Recommendations

Recommending educational campaigns highlighting the harmful effects of firecrackers on both air quality, human and animal safety and animal welfare, the civic groups stated that the use of eco-friendly and green firecrackers with low noise should be promoted as alternatives for celebrations.

"Besides, inter-State transport of crackers must be tracked with immediate effect. Also, the timings of bursting green crackers - 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. - must be followed not only during Diwali but other festivals such as Karnataka Rajyotsava, Karthika Deepa, Christmas, and New Year," the representation added.

KFD vaccine likely to be available for use by 2026: Health Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao, who met the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Director General at Delhi on Tuesday, said the Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD) vaccine is likely to be available for use by 2026.

"The vaccine being developed by Hyderabad-based Indian Immunologicals Ltd., with the concurrence of ICMR, has shown promising results in first phase and is in second phase of clinical trials on macaque monkeys. The second phase will be started soon and human trials will take place in April 2025 and the vaccine will be available for use in 2026," he said.

The State will extend all support, including monetary aid to ICMR, for faster delivery of vaccines, he said. Previously, the vaccine developed against KFD has been found ineffective. Hence, a new vaccine is being developed.

Mr. Gundu Rao, who met Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda on Wednesday, submitted a memorandum seeking increase in salaries for doctors and staff nurses under National Health Mission as the existing salaries are not attractive for them to work in rural areas.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

D KRISHNASWAMI (84yrs), Retired EDP Executive, The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 16.10.2024. Address: 42/18, Flat No: 3A, Voora Gitanjali Apartments, Sarangapani St, T. Nagar, Chennai- 600017. Cont: 99406 21463.

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
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Corporate Identity Number (CIN) : U31401KA2002SGC030437
No: HESCOM/ SEE (T&P)/ EE-(T&P)/AEE-1/2024-25/CYS-4843 Dated: 15-OCT-2024
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(E-Procurement Portal Only)
The undersigned invites tenders in two parts (Part –I: Techno-Commercial Bid and Part-II: Price Bid) through e-procurement portal for Hiring of Outsourced vehicles through Authorized Agency.

Sl. No	Particulars	Enq.No.
1	Hiring of Outsourced vehicles through Authorized Agency for Hubli Zone.	HESCOM/2024-25/SE0294/CALL-2
2	Hiring of Outsourced vehicles through Authorized Agency for Belagavi Zone.	HESCOM/2024-25/SE0295/CALL-2

For further details visit the website: Kppp.karnataka.gov.in on OR after 16.10.2024.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele), Tendering & Procurement HESCOM, Hubballi.
DIPR/Dwd/516/DeshpandePublicity/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (RR Nagar Division), Lakes, 3rd Floor, Annex-3 Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.
No: EE (Lakes-RRN)/TEND/02/2024-25 Date: 16-10-2024
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)
The Executive Engineer (Lakes-RR Nagar Division), BBMP, Bengaluru invites Proposals (Technical and Financial) for Appointing Consultant for Preparation of Detail Project Report for the works mentioned below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Preparation of Details Project Reports for Comprehensive Development of Kannali Lake, Soolikere, Kodigehalli Lake, H. Gollahalli Kere & Varahasandra Lakes in RR Nagar Zone. **(No. of Lakes - 5) - EMD Amount (in Rs.): 50,000.00**
2	Preparation of Details Project Reports for Comprehensive Development of Mylasandra (Sunnakallu Palya) Lake, Busegowdana Lake, Konasandra Lake, Bhimanakuppe Lake, Mangammanahalli Lake, Kenchanapura Lakes in RR Nagar Zone. **(No. of Lakes - 6) - EMD Amount (in Rs.): 50,000.00**

Calendar of Events: 1) RFP Documents can be downloaded from GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 18-10-2024. 2)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **23-10-2024 at 3.00 PM in the Office of the Executive Engineer (Lakes-RR Nagar Division), BBMP. 3)** Bids must be Submitted online through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **on or before 16.00 Hours on 25-10-2024. 4)** Technical Bids will be Opened on the Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in at the Office of the Engineer (Lakes-RR Nagar Division) on 28-10-2024 at 11.30 AM.** Further details can be had from the above office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer
RR Nagar Division (Lakes), BBMP.

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD
Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)

Sl.No.	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No.	Total
1	SE / MM-II	M 128	1

For details of Works / Procurement / Due date of submission / opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites: **www.tangedco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in**
DIPR/4336/Tender/2024

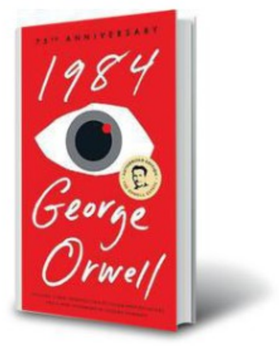
PUNJAB ROADS & BRIDGES DEVELOPMENT BOARD
SCO 61-62, PHASE -2, S.A.S. NAGAR (MOHALI)
e-Procurement Notice
The Chief Engineer & Empowered Officer, SRRDA, Punjab on behalf of Government of Punjab invites the percent rate bids in electronic tendering system regarding **"Request For Proposal (RFP) for Engagement of Project Management Unit (PMU) at SRRDA for supervising, monitoring & quality check for roads to be taken up for construction/up-gradation with CTB & Full Depth Reclamation (FDR) Technology in Punjab under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)"** from the reputed firms/consultants/companies having experience in similar nature of work.
The Date of release of invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 16/10/2024 (dd/mm/yyyy).
Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in https://pmgsytenders.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.
Last Date & Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 21/11/2024 (dd/mm/yyyy) upto 15:00 Hours(time). For further details please log on to https://pmgsytenders.gov.in.
Chief Engineer
State Rural Road Development Agency
O/o Punjab Roads & Bridges Development Board
SCF 61-62, Phase-2, Sector 54, S.A.S. Nagar
(Mohali), Chandigarh, India – 160055
Tel. :+91 172 5134620,
NA/12/25890/2023/38400 **Email: srrda.punjab@punjab.gov.in**

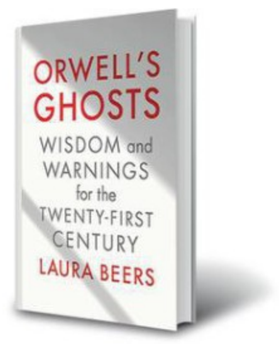
BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Dasarahalli Division), Lakes,
3rd Floor, Annex-3 Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002.
No. EE(Lakes-DAS)/TEND/02/2024-25 Date: 16.10.2024
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)
A) The Executive Engineer (Lakes-Dasarahalli Division) BBMP, invites tenders on behalf of the Commissioner, Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), invites Proposals (Technical and Financial) for appointing Consultant for Preparation of Detail Project Report for the Works detailed in the table below. **B)** The detailed Objectives and the Scope of the Assignment shall be as per Request for Proposal (RFP) Document & it may be downloaded from the Government of Karnataka e-Procurement Website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from **18/10/2024.** The RFP Document can be downloaded in the Portal as per the prescribed Date and Time published in the Portal. Only interested Consultants who wish to participate shall remit online Transaction Fee for the RFP Document after registering in the Portal. The Transaction Fee is nonrefundable. **C)** Bids must be submitted online through Karnataka Public Procurement portal on or before **16.00 hours** on **25/10/2024** and the opening of tenders will be as per the e-procurement portal guidelines.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works/EMD Amount./Number of Lakes
1	Preparation of Detail Project Reports for Comprehensive Development of Mallasandra Gudde Lake & Basappanakatte Lakes in Dasarahalli Zone. EMD Amount : **25,000/-**, Number of Lakes : **2 No.**

Note:
(1) Pre bid meeting will be held on **23/10/2024** at **03.00PM** hours in the office of the Executive Engineer Lakes- Dasarahalli Division,
(2) Technical Bids will be opened on the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on **28/10/2024 at 11.30AM hours**.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division-Lakes, BBMP

BIBLIOGRAPHY





ISTOCKPHOTO

The contemporary relevance of the rhetoric of Orwellianism

There's more to George Orwell than his dystopian portraits in two famous novels. Writers warn against replacing the complexity of Orwell's political thought, his quest for equality, social justice and his aesthetic sense with a two-dimensional caricature of the writer as an anti-totalitarian prophet

Sudhirendar Sharma

In the year 2024, it's indeed a surprise to describe the relevance of George Orwell as an author and as a cultural product. Orwell's endearing fame as a writer and a thinker, and his critique of authoritarianism with the emphasis on disinformation, manifests itself in *Animal Farm* and *Nineteen Eighty Four*, two of his dystopian novels translated into an excess of 65 languages. Both books are on best-selling lists even now. Published within a gap of four years in 1945 and 1949, the language of both the novels continues to echo across politics and culture.

The world that Orwell prophesied hasn't come to pass; on the contrary, his words offer sharp lessons for the contemporary world, says Laura Beers in her new book, *Orwell's Ghosts* (2024). In her Introduction, the British historian who teaches at American University writes that invocations of Orwell's words have reached new heights, with both the right and the left appropriating them to suit their ends.

After the January 6, 2021 "insurrection" at Capitol Hill in Washington D.C., Republican senator Josh Hawley compared the cancellation of his book contract to life in Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty Four*, notes Beers.

The left too, she writes, has embraced the rhetoric of Orwellianism to depict either Donald Trump or Boris Johnson.

The term, Orwellian, has been used to depict Vladimir Putin's "attempts to manage information on the Ukraine war."

Left and right reappropriation

She quotes the literary scholar John Rodden who in a study made a distinction between Orwell the man and "Orwell", the cultural product, which offers a valuable lens for considering how both Orwell and his books have been repeatedly reappropriated for various political ends.

'Big Brother' is still a synonym for a totalitarian surveillance state, which has recently been co-opted as the title of a popular reality show. Orwell questioned the presence of the 'big brother' and the surveillance state, contending that both reflect the emergence of a fascist state. The Spanish Civil War was a crucial turning point in Orwell's life; both the novels came after the civil war, and a newfound commitment to socialism. Had Spain not awakened Orwell to write these iconic books, he would not have championed individual liberty as a cause. Beers says Orwell was a "broad and deep thinker who opposed inequality as fervently as he opposed censorship and tyranny."

Language of truth

"The real frightening thing about totalitarianism," said Orwell, "is not that it commits 'atrocities' but that it attacks the concept of objective truth; it claims to control the past as well as the future." The attack on truth and language makes atrocities possible. The atrocities are easy to commit, if truth has been silenced as the first victim. Once people are terrorised into silence, obedience, and lies, it becomes easier for an authoritarian administration to take the next steps. Beers shows why the present generation must value Orwell's politics and what must be learnt from his thoughts.

Although he died in 1950, when he was only 47, his life was full of eventful and interesting episodes. Orwell's childhood seems to have been divided between the freedom and the pleasure of life outdoors, and the regimentation and misery of the schools he lived at from age eight to 18.

Beers says the question that bedevilled Orwell for the final dozen years of his life was whether and how a socialist society could be achieved that offered its citizens economic security and social equality without devolving into authoritarianism. She warns against replacing the complexity of his political thought with a two-dimensional caricature of Orwell as an anti-totalitarian prophet. In considering his writing, Beers draws attention to at least "one blind spot", his inability to appreciate the negative impact of patriarchal structures on women. "Orwell was a socialist, but decidedly not a feminist," she notes.

Though he wasn't exemplary, argues Rebecca Solnit, he was nevertheless courageous and committed. Orwell managed to love both Englishmen and loathe the British Empire, to be an advocate for underdogs and outsiders. "He was a rebel against his own biological condition and he was a rebel against social conditions; the two were very closely linked together." Solnit's *Orwell's Roses* challenges the conventional image of Orwell as a gloomy figure always fighting for a cause. The commitment to the things of this world could also be the focus of a spiritual discipline, a warmth he saw Gandhi was lacking. Our job is to make life worth living on this earth, Gandhi had said, because this is the only earth we have.

Contrasting studies

Orwell's Ghosts and *Orwell's Roses* are two contrasting studies. While the first explores his commitment to political liberty and economic jutice, the second examines his aesthetics and ethics. If one were to count Orwell's single achievement, it would be the fact that he named and described, as no one else had, the way that totalitarianism was a threat not just to liberty and human rights, but to language and consciousnous as well. His essays laid the ground for his diverse political thoughts. Without doubt, Orwell is the perfect guide to our own age of upheaval.

Orwell's sense of social justice was his most outstanding characteristic, his friends attest. In the nearly seventy-five years since his death, the emphasis of his political thought is well established. One of the lessons from Orwell's writing and thought is that it's imperative to stand up against oppressive regimes everywhere, domestic or international.

Orwell took a dim view of the role of religion in society; he believed it principally divided society. Revisiting Orwell is like visiting recent pasts and the current upheaval. The work he did is everyone's job now.

Sudhirendar Sharma is an independent writer, researcher and academic.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On October 17, 1943, the Japanese completed the Burma-Siam "Death Railway". Almost 90,000 prisoners and natives were killed while constructing it. A quiz on the Railway

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

Eighty-one years ago on October 17, prisoners of war and civilians overseen by Japanese forces in Burma (now Myanmar) formally finished building the infamous Burma Railway. Name the city in Thailand this line connected at one end with Thanbyuzayat in Burma at the other.

QUESTION 2

Japan invaded Burma in 1942 and the latter's British forces quickly surrendered. But Japanese efforts to resupply its troops there by sea were set back by the Battle of X in June. After Japan lost the battle, it began to consider a railway line instead, which became the Burma Railway. Name X.

QUESTION 3

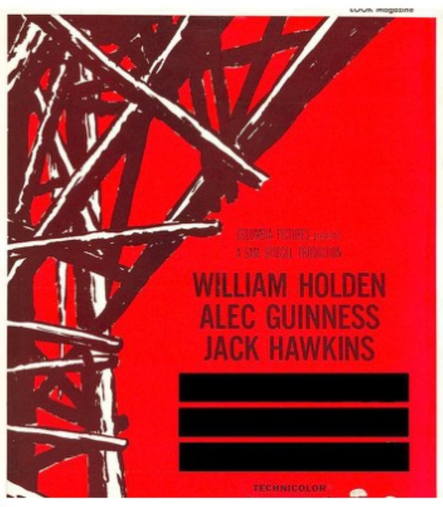
Name the prison facility in Singapore where the Japanese forces housed their British prisoners of war (PoWs), and whom it later transported to Burma as among the first labourers building the Burma Railway.

QUESTION 4

In the 1950s, mass graves of Southeast Asian civilians who died building the Burma Railway were exhumed and reburied at the Wat Thaworn Wararam Buddhist temple in Thailand. Commemorative signs were installed there in Thai, English, Mandarin, and X. Name X.

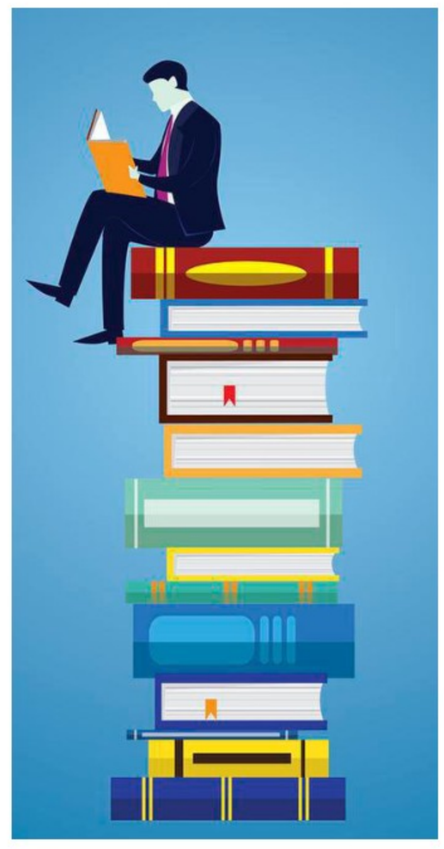
QUESTION 5

Name the British mathematician known for his work on the theory of quadratic forms. He was held as a Japanese PoW, where he established an informal "university" for the inmates, organised classes, and conducted discussion groups, before being transported to build the Railway in 1942.



Visual question:
Name the 1957 film, whose poster is shown above, which is based on the Burma Railway construction but almost entirely fictionalised. PUBLIC DOMAIN

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. John Hopfield compared AI with this discovery. **Ans: Discovery of nuclear fission, which led to nuclear weapons**
2. The 2024 Nobel Prize winner for Chemistry started playing this game at a very young age. **Ans: Chess**
3. The discovery of Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun. **Ans: For the discovery of microRNA and its role in post-transcriptional gene regulation**
4. Name the two writers and the book. **Ans: *Why Nations Fail* by Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson**
5. The milestone reached by Han Kang by winning the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2024. The 2007 novel which rose her to international prominence. **Ans: She became the first South Korean writer and the first female Asian writer to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature; *The Vegetarian***
Visual: The above image is related to which of the Nobel Prizes. **Ans: They are the members of the Nihon Hidankyo, which won the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize. The organisation won the award for its efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons**
Early Birds: Varghese Joseph



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian Upendran

"Would you like to have another cup of coffee?"
"No, thanks."
"Are you sure?"
"Quite sure."
"Does 'quite sure' mean 'absolutely sure' or 'rather sure'?"
"When you say you're 'quite sure' of something, you mean that you're 'absolutely sure' of it. Sudha is quite sure she doesn't want to marry Govind."
"Who would want to marry him?"
"I'm sure there are quite a few girls who would like to marry him."
"A few, maybe. But not many girls may like to marry him."
"I didn't say 'a few', but 'quite a few'. And 'quite few' means 'considerable number'."
" 'Quite a few' means 'considerable number'?"
"Yes. If you say, Ramu ate quite a few idlis, it means he ate a lot of idlis. Similarly, if someone says there were quite a few students absent today, it means..."
"...A lot of students were absent today. Interesting. 'Quite' seems to have several meanings."
"Quite so."
"Quite so?"
"When somebody says something and you respond by saying 'quite so', it means that you agree with him/her."
"So if you say, It's terribly crowded in this restaurant', could I say 'Quite so'?"
"Yes. In fact, you can even drop the word 'so'. You can just say 'quite'. Now then, shall we get going? Otherwise, we'd be late for the film."
"Relax. The theatre is quite near. It's hardly a five minute walk from here."
"Even so, I would like to get out of this place. It's quite warm here."
"Quite so. Let me pay the bill and..."
"Hey, that's quite a wallet you have there!"
"Quite a wallet? What does it mean?"
" 'Quite a' in that sentence shows appreciation. It's another way of saying 'that's a nice wallet you have there'."
"Could I say that's quite a car you have there?"
"Sure. One thing you have to remember is that 'quite a' is an informal expression used mainly in American English. Now then, are you ready to leave?"
"Sure."
Published in The Hindu on September 14, 1993.

Word of the day

Ideate:
form a mental image of something that is not present or that is not the case

Synonyms: imagine, conceive of, envisage

Usage: *They were asked to ideate a new project.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/ideatepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈaɪdieɪt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Festival of Dogs: A test of community harmony

BBMP is celebrating 'Festival of Dogs' today. The goal is not only to address immediate concerns about dog bites but also to foster a more harmonious relationship between residents and street animals

Yemen S.
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike is set to celebrate the 'Festival of Dogs' on October 17, inspired by Kukkur Tihar, an annual festival where people worship dogs in October or November, originating from Nepal. However, even as the civic body announced the festival, another dog bite video in Bengaluru surfaced on social media.

The video shows a group of dogs attacking a teenage girl on the Indian Air Force station campus, Jalahalli East. Around the same locality, on August 28, a 76-year-old woman was fatally attacked by stray dogs during her morning walk. According to BBMP sources, the currently circulating video is from a similar incident that occurred on September 28, exactly a month later.

These incidents have compelled BBMP to come up with long-term programmes to tackle issues surrounding stray dogs that have remained unresolved for years.

Providing food for strays

On the day of the Festival of Dogs, the BBMP will launch a programme to address the rising issue of stray dog bites and the growing divide between communities and street animals. It has announced a new partnership with animal activists, pourakarmikas, hotel owners, and health department officials to ensure stray dogs are adequately fed.

The initiative by BBMP's animal husbandry division will introduce an experimental programme aimed at providing food for strays in areas where food sources have diminished for them. The programme is planned to be rolled out by December after trial runs in Manjunath Nagar, Bagalagunte, Pottery Town, and a few more areas.

How to register

Animal lovers and caregivers will have the chance to register with the BBMP's animal husbandry division to assist in feeding stray dogs within the city's jurisdiction. The volunteers and experts will decide on locations where strays have to be fed and at what time of the day. A registration link is available on the BBMP's social media platforms, with the process open from October 2 to 31. While registration is not mandatory, a BBMP official stated that it would help create a database and streamline the campaign. As of October 16, as many as 244 caretakers have come forward to take part in the programme.

Once registered, pourakarmikas and hotel owners will also be involved, and feeding areas will be designated. The initiative will initially be rolled out as a pilot in selected areas. Feedback will be gathered from all stakeholders, and if successful, it will be expanded to all wards.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, BBMP's special commissioner of the Animal Husbandry Department, Suralkar Vikas Kishor, said, "This is the first dog feeding programme in the country that is led by a civic body. We have observed that dog bite cases are quite frequent these days. Our solid waste management practices have also improved, and we segregate wet and dry waste quite well, so the availability of food on the streets has gone down. Which could be one of the reasons stray dogs have turned aggressive."

Community-animal bond

The BBMP's goal is not only to address immediate concerns about dog bites but also to foster a more harmonious relationship between the community and street animals. "Our effort is to reduce the distance between us and animals. We did a study and understood that dog bite cases have increased due to the lack of food availability," said Suralkar.

Volunteers feeding stray dogs that were struggling to get food in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

Food being given to stray dogs inside the premises of Kempegowda International Airport by an NGO in Bengaluru. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

Pet lovers feeding milk to stray dogs near Lalbagh. FILE PHOTO

Suralkar says many residents have requested the removal of stray dogs from their neighbourhoods, citing fears of aggression. "However, we realised that if a feeding arrangement can be made with the society leading the project and BBMP providing support, it will help calm down stray dogs. We have been living with these animals for centuries, and we cannot just keep them away," he added.

High-risk areas

The programme will first target areas with higher rates of dog bite complaints and fewer local caregivers for stray animals. The BBMP has decided to assign pourakarmikas to feed the strays in these regions. "Wherever there is a lack of local caregivers, we have decided to assign our pourakarmikas to feed these dogs. The pourakarmikas, after or between their regular work, will find time to feed the strays at least once a day."

Suralkar said measures would be taken to prevent the gathering of dogs at one location, which could trigger aggressive behaviour. "Bowls will be placed at distanced locations, and pourakarmikas will receive training from experts on how to feed the dogs safely. Pourakarmikas will also be provided with safety equipment to ensure their well-being while interacting with the animals," he explained.

Suralkar said feeding stray animals presents logistical challenges, particularly in terms of sourcing food. To address this, the BBMP has partnered with restaurants and hotels, along with its own Indira Canteens, to provide leftover food that is suitable for dogs.

"Hotel and restaurant association members and BBMP-led Indira Canteens will provide leftover food, like rice, chapati, idly, curd, and milk – anything without spices or too much salt, and palatable for dogs. We have decided to go forward with this only after we got approval from dog experts and vets," said Suralkar. "Our focus for now is to make sure stray dogs get one meal a day. Eventually, once the programme is running smoothly and the situation is under control, we will shift our focus to providing more nutritious meals."

Mixed reactions

Rajesh Mehra, a Koramangala resident who feeds stray dogs in his area, is supportive of the initiative. "It's encouraging to see the BBMP finally stepping in to help us feeders. We have been doing this on our own for years, and it's heartening to know there will be official backing. Feeding strays not only keeps them calm but also helps create a peaceful coexistence."

Priya Menon, another feeder in Koramangala, says the initiative will benefit stray dogs, especially those in the city's outskirts.

"Problems arise only when we don't clean up after feeding the dogs or if we feed them during busy hours when there are too many people around. If we find the right technique to feed the dogs, we will have a happy neighbourhood both for us and the stray animals," she added.

On the other hand, Meghana Rao from Whitefield expressed her reservations.

"While I understand the need to care for these animals, stray dogs can be quite aggressive at times, especially when in groups. We have many feeders in our surroundings who have been constantly caring for these dogs, but their aggression remains the same."

"Many of the residents in our apartments, including me, have been chased by dogs whenever we are walking or riding on our two-wheelers, especially during the night. I am worried that feeding them could attract more dogs to our area, and that might increase the risk of dog bites, especially for children," she added.

Arun Prasad, a resident of Jayanagar, says safety should be planned accurately. "If the feeding programme is well-structured and the dogs are fed away from residential areas, it could work. But I think safety should be the priority, and the BBMP should ensure that these animals don't gather in large numbers where people walk or play."

Children from NGO in Bengaluru meet cricket players

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Cricket is not just a sport in India but an emotion and a source of inspiration. For five children from Parikrma Humanity Foundation, an NGO based in Bengaluru, it was a dream-come-true moment when they got an opportunity to interact with players of the Indian national cricket team and practice nets with them.

Children with some members of the cricket team.

On a platform facilitated by SBI Life Insurance and BCCI, five children from underprivileged backgrounds got cricket tips from Sanju Samson, Arshdeep Singh and Indian T20 team captain Suryakumar Yadav.

The objective behind the initiative was to enrich the lives of the children by not only supporting their education and holistic development but also inspiring them to dream big and achieve their aspirations for a brighter future.

The five children, Deepika M, Mailari N, Ananya V, Nava Pranav and Paogouhao L, also got the opportunity to watch the India Vs Bangladesh international T20 match at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi.

Ravindra Sharma, Chief of Brand, Corporate Communication, and CSR at SBI Life, said, "We're honoured to have played a small part in helping these children experience such a significant moment in their lives. At SBI Life, we look at our partnership with BCCI beyond supporting the sport to inspire fans across the nation and liberate them to dream big and pursue those dreams."

"We are thankful to the cricketing legends like Suryakumar Yadav, Arshdeep Singh and Sanju Samson for taking time out and wholeheartedly playing ball with kids; the quality time spent will be etched as an inspirational memory for the kids, encouraging them to dream big.

Bengaluru start-up Tablesprint raises $1m

It offers AI-first SaaS platform that helps firms build apps and playbooks across business verticals

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Tablesprint, an AI-powered no-code app builder, has raised around $1 million in a funding round led by a group of prominent angel investors and syndicates including Ankit Bhati (Co-Founder, Ola), Ajeet Khurana (Founder, Reflexical), Sunil Sharma (CEO, Coingape), BlueLotus Ventures, TDV Partners, DGC Ventures, and Abhijeet Bhandari (Advisor-startups).

This funding is expected to enhance Tablesprint's offerings, helping the company strengthen its team and drive product development.

"At BlueLotus Ventures, we support gritty founders who are building high-potential companies. We see enormous opportunities for companies to enable SMBs thoughtfully. This fundraiser marks the first milestone in creating what we believe will be an exceptional global product company from India", said Uday Arya, Co-founder and Partner at BlueLotus Ventures.

Chirag Jadhav, Co-Founder and CTO of Tablesprint and Abhijeet Kumar, Co-Founder and CEO of Tablesprint. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Saving cost and time

Tablesprint offers an AI-first SaaS platform that helps companies build apps and playbooks across business verticals. The no-code platform offers customizable building blocks such as AI Write/Image, Forms, Workflows, Kanban, and Charts, which can be tailored to specific business processes like sales, orders, purchases, HR, and so on.

Companies have the flexibility to start with simple use cases—such as surveys, forms, payments, notifications, product catalogues, employee onboarding, or HR document storage—and scale up to full business workflows like managing end-to-end sales processes. Tablesprint also provides pre-built playbooks, such as 'Hire to Retire,' 'Order to Cash,' and 'Procure to Pay,' which have pre-built modules for the complete business workflows.

Companies have the flexibility to use these pre-built playbooks or create their own to meet evolving needs. This approach allows enterprises to adapt and improve their systems over time, ensuring operational efficiency and scalability.

"We are building an AI-powered platform that helps enterprises go live in minutes, not months. By delivering a consumer app-like experience for enterprise use cases, we enable simple workflows to scale into complex, enterprise-grade systems, allowing businesses to adapt and grow seamlessly," said Abhijeet Kumar, Co-Founder and CEO of Tablesprint.

Kumar previously co-founded RainCan, a B2C subscription start-up that was acquired by BigBasket and rebranded as BBdaily.

Along with his former BigBasket colleague Chirag Jadhav, the duo started Tablesprint in early 2024

"Creating a truly multi-tenant system that resonates with both developers and business stakeholders is a significant challenge. We are excited with our progress so far and look forward to tackling more challenges ahead on this journey," said Chirag Jadhav, Co-Founder and CTO of Tablesprint.

Tablesprint's clients include large enterprises like Flipkart and start-ups in the wealth management space such as Elever. The platform is also running pilot programs with medium and large global enterprises across industries.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO OCTOBER 17, 1974

There Was No Confusion During Examination: ITI

Bangalore, Oct. 15: The Indian Telephone Industries authorities have denied that confusion marked the written examination they conducted last Sunday to recruit Assistant Executive Engineers.

The Publicity Officer of the ITI, in a press statement, said the examination was not scheduled at 9 a.m. as reported. The examination started punctually at 10 a.m. and ended at 12-25 p.m.

All the candidates had occupied the various rooms at 9-45 a.m. Arrangements had been made at the ITI Vidya Mandir to accommodate all the candidates.

Plan for Direct Appointment of Harijans

Tumkur, Oct. 15: Mr. N. Rachlah, Minister for Social Welfare, said here recently that the Government was considering the creation of facilities by which job aspirants from among the Harijans and backwards-class families could be straight away employed without the intermediary agency of employment exchanges or any other committees vested with selection and appointing powers.

Mr. Rachiah, who inaugurated a Harijan Conference in Tiptur taluk, said local committees would be formed in each village to take steps for eradication of untouchability. The minister said that five acres would be given to any social worker who puts forth efforts for social reform and also to all landless Harijans. Mr. V.L. Shivappa, former MLA, presided.

Ultimate frisbee is slowly gaining popularity as serious sport in Karnataka. Read on...

Frisbee soars into the big leagues

Kalyan Ashok

Frisbee which has long been a popular pastime in the West has now evolved into a serious sport called Ultimate Frisbee. The game was introduced in 1968 at Columbia High School in New Jersey, USA by Joel Silver. It has now spread across the globe and over 100 countries, including India have taken to Ultimate Frisbee in a big way.

Ultimate Frisbee is a non-contact sport played with flying discs on both grass and sand. There are no officials to run the matches; players officiate themselves in the spirit of the sport. On grass, it is a team of seven and comprises four men and three women, while on sand, a team consists of five players – three men and two women. The ratio of players alternates after every two points.

The game is played in an arena 40 metres wide and 100 metres long, and a match lasts for 75 minutes.

Frisbee has gained international recognition from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) but it is yet to become an Olympic sport, and there are speculations that it will be part of the 2032 Olympics in Australia. It is governed by an international apex body called World Flying Disc Federation and a national body in India called Flying Disc Sports Federation of India, which was formed in 2010.

Players' perspective

According to Aishwarya J, an ardent exponent of the game and secretary of Karnataka Ultimate Players Association (KUPA), frisbee is played across the nation in several cities including Chennai, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Goa, Kochi, Alappuzha, Jaipur and Trivandrum among other places. The game is also supported by NGOs who have introduced this sport to underprivileged children and those from economically weaker sections to develop their sporting skills.

"In India, the game has its largest base in Karnataka. There are over a thousand players who play Ultimate Frisbee either for recreation or as a competitive sport. That apart, there are 18 clubs which seriously conduct Ultimate Frisbee tournaments in Bengaluru," says Aishwarya.

Fun in the sun Players enjoy a game of Frisbee outdoors. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The State Association recently conducted an inter-state tournament where Karnataka won a silver. Institutions such as Jain and Azim Premji universities, National Law College, IIM, IISc and others, have been at the forefront to promote the sport.

"The game has huge potential in this city and state, and needs a lot of support not only from the general public but also from governmental organisations to develop at the grassroots level," she adds.

"I was introduced to the sport as a law student in 2016 and have been promoting it ever since. In 2019, after I became a competition committee member of the National Federation, I quit law to fully focus on Ultimate Frisbee," says Aishwarya, who became secretary of KUPA in 2023.

Sumedha Kandpal, a player-turned-coach began playing 13 years ago in Ahmedabad. "What appealed to me about Ultimate Frisbee were the simple rules. After several years as a player, I became a coach. With Ultimate Frisbee, there are no peers or hierarchy, everybody is on the same level," says Sumedha who now represents a club called Air Traffic Control in Bengaluru.

Similarly, what attracted Rishvanjas Raghavan, a Karnataka player, was the uniqueness of the sport.

"I got into the sport as an undergraduate in Delhi. Though I played cricket and volleyball, what attracted me to frisbee is its novelty. There is nothing more joyful for a beginner than to throw the disc, catch it, and score a goal," says Rishvanjas, who plays for Learning to Fly, a team which was formed in 2005.

Free for all

One of the positive aspects of the game is gender equality and parity in the team composition. However, that was not the case during the early days of the sport in India.

Sumedha says, "When I began playing this sport, there were hardly one or two women and the team was usually dominated by male players. Slowly the ratio has increased. Today, we have approximately an equal number of women players in a team as we have men."

She adds the game has certain inherent challenges. "We still need to attract more women players to the sport. We also need to have dedicated spaces to play. As of now we play in a football stadium or any other arena which has a flat surface."

Obstacles to overcome

Rishvanjas admits that spectator interest in frisbee is not as big as in other sports.

"However, we livestream national tournaments on YouTube, which is watched by several thousands. Though it is not as big as it is in the United State where there are a million players, the number is steadily growing in India. Hopefully, by the time frisbee is an Olympic sport, India would have built a strong player," he says.

CITYBEATS

Best of Bavaria

OCTOBER 27
Binge on some Bavarian cuisine this Oktoberfest, hosted by Dina Webber, founder of SAPA Bakery. The menu will feature a few iconic Bavarian dishes that have been paired with carefully selected beers. Dina's menu will evoke the nostalgia of southern Germany, Austria, and Alpine ski holidays.
At The Courtyard, Shanti Nagar

Toddy takes over

OCTOBER 19 AND 20
There will be a two-day pop-up that will bring Kerala's iconic toddy shops to One8 Commune Bangalore. Chef Sandeep Sreedharan will present a lively two-day brunch takeover between 12.30pm and 4.30pm. Along with toddy you can also look forward to Kerala's traditional cuisine.
At One 8 Commune, Kasturba Road. Visit //zomato.onelink.me/xqzv/s91z507x for details

Nice ice

ONGOING
Naturals Ice Cream has come up with a jalebi ice cream for the festive season. The ice cream is made with the syrupy goodness of the iconic sweet and is flavoured like cardamom and rose petals, and topped off with almonds and pistas.
Available at all Naturals outlets across India and on Swiggy/Zomato/Thrive.

A meditative exploration of colour, time and movement

Gallery G will be hosting 'Chromatic Rhythms,' a solo exhibition by abstract artist Prabhakar Kolte, marking his first-ever display in Bengaluru. Running from October 20 to November 22, this exhibition offers a chance for art enthusiasts to explore Prabhakar's signature abstract style.

Referred to as the 'Paul Klee of India,' Prabhakar is known for his mastery of abstraction much like the Swiss-German artist. As an artist at the turn of the century, Paul Klee gained popularity for his signature styles of expressionism, cubism, and surrealism.

Prabhakar's paintings go beyond mere representation, using colour and texture to convey deep emotional and psychological landscapes. Each of his works feels like a meditative exploration, inviting viewers on a journey through layers of paint that seem to be infused with rhythm and life.

The title 'Chromatic Rhythms' encapsulates the essence of this body of work. Prabhakar's canvases are not only visually striking but also introspective, reflecting the natural world and the fluctuating emotions of the human experience. His paintings evoke the sense of viewing nature through a window, with colours and textures shifting like the seasons, much like a Tchaikovsky musical composition that evolves over time.

Shifting shapes Some of the works on display at Chromatic Rhythms. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Prabhalkar's innovative use of the weathering techniques adds a sense of time and movement to his works, enhancing their dynamic quality. Each canvas feels like a moment captured in flux, prompting viewers to pause and reflect on the inner calm that exists amidst life's chaos. This exhibition promises to be a must-see for lovers of contemporary abstract art.

Chromatic Rhythms is open daily from October 20 to November 22 (10am to 6pm) at Gallery G, Lavelle Road. For more information, visit galleryg.com or follow @galleryg_arts on social media for updates.

Team effort Stills from the film and Sundar S. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Setting the stage

Shilpa Anandraj

The title of the film, *Prakarana Tanikha Hantadallide*, (investigation of the incident is almost done) is a common enough phrase for a Kannadiga. The title also does not leave any doubt of the genre – preparing you for a crime thriller or a murder mystery.

Releasing on October 18 under the Karadayi Studios banner, *Prakarana Tanikha Hantadallide* is produced by Chinthan Kambanna, written and directed by Sundar S and includes a cast of Mahin Kuber, Mutturaj T, Pradeep Kumar, Raj Gagan, Shivu byra, Madhu B J, Ganesh R and Chinthan himself. Shot in and around Bengaluru Mohan MS and Jagadeesh RJ have shot *Prakarana Tanikha Hantadallide*.

Sundar, an active member of the theatre group, Ranga Vismaya, talks about the film, its genesis and more amidst the pre-release press meet in SVR Theatre, Malleswaram. Apart from being made by theatre enthusiasts, Prakarana Tanikha Hantadallide's 90 minute run time makes it stand out from the regular two-and-a-half hour or three-hour norm, says the 33-year-old director.

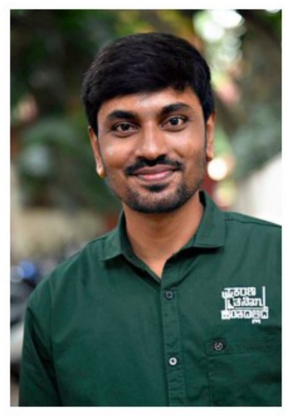
The team joined hands to create the film and we worked with a tight budget." The team, Sundar says, used the tight budget to its advantage. "Ninety minutes works to tell a taut crime story. We did not want to create any lag in the narration and have avoided unnecessary elements that might bore the audience."

Sundar, an MBA graduate, quit working in a pharmaceutical company eight years ago to pursue theatre. "Except for Chintan, the rest of us have been part of a theatre group called Ranga Baduku, where we have staged many Kannada plays."

While working in theatre, Sundar says, they would also create and discuss film stories. "We decided to make *Prakarana Tanikha Hantadallide*. As we could not get money for the project, Chintan took it upon himself to finance the film."

Sundar says while he has never been a part of the film industry, he has friends who are from the world of cinema for years.

> In theatre, every person is involved in the storyline and characters from start to finish.
>
> **SUNDAR S**
> Director of
> *Prakarana Tanikha Hantadallide*



"We worked with the elements of theatre while making this film. Theatre persons look at the stage as a sacred space for them to perform, and we have created the film with a similar perspective."

In theatre, Sundar says, everyone does everything. "A person will act, help with costumes, set and design and work backstage. In theatre, every person is involved in the storyline and characters from start to finish. Each player is not just familiar with the story, but also how their fellow actors will act it out."

Sundar, who dreams of making more films, insists he will never give up theatre. He has praise for Rakthan S Gowda. "He comes with a long innings in the film industry and helped us with screenplay and dialogues."

Chennai, surroundings get respite from rain; showers expected to continue

Regional Meteorological Centre maintains red alert for Chennai region as depression is likely to move close to T.N. coast

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Chennai and its neighbouring districts got a respite from extreme rainfall for most of Wednesday.

The Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC), in its bulletin issued at 8.30 p.m. on Wednesday, downgraded the red alert issued for Chennai and its surroundings to orange alert.

The northeast monsoon's first spell pounded Chennai and its neighbouring districts. Cholavaram received extremely heavy rainfall of 30 cm till 8.30 a.m. on Wednesday.

Red Hills and Avadi, among others, received intense rain of 28 cm and 25 cm respectively. While heavy rainfall is likely in northern parts of the State on Thursday, Chennai and its surroundings may receive light to moderate rain.

While heavy rain was likely in north Tamil Nadu on Thursday, Chennai and its surroundings may receive light to moderate rain.
B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

The depression over the Bay of Bengal moved at 17 kmph, and lay about 190 km southeast of Chennai and 270 km southeast of Nellore on Wednesday.

It is likely to cross the north Tamil Nadu and south Andhra Pradesh coasts between Puducherry and Nellore, close to north of Chennai, in the early hours of Thursday.

According to RMC Chennai, the current wet spell would continue for four days.

S. Balachandran, Additional Director General of Meteorology, Chennai, said a red alert, indicating the possibility of extremely heavy rain, was given for isolated places in Chennai and its surroundings. "It is also meant for the administrators to stay alert. Various factors, such as the impact of the heavy rain earlier, are taken into account while issuing weather alerts. There have been occasions in the past when there have been changes in a short interval. There may be breaks in rainfall," he said. Areas such as Cholavaram and Avadi, away from the coast, have received intense rain compared to coastal stations as the weather system was not strong like a cyclone and not vertically aligned. This can affect the rainfall pattern, he further said.

According to RMC Chennai, the current wet spell would continue for four days. On Thursday, nine districts, including Chennai and Tiruvallur, may get heavy to very heavy rainfall.

Heavy rain may continue in north Tamil Nadu on Friday too, it added.

On Wednesday, various places received light rain till 5.30 p.m.

The State has already received an excess rainfall of 94% since October 1.

Khandre refutes HDK's claim

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

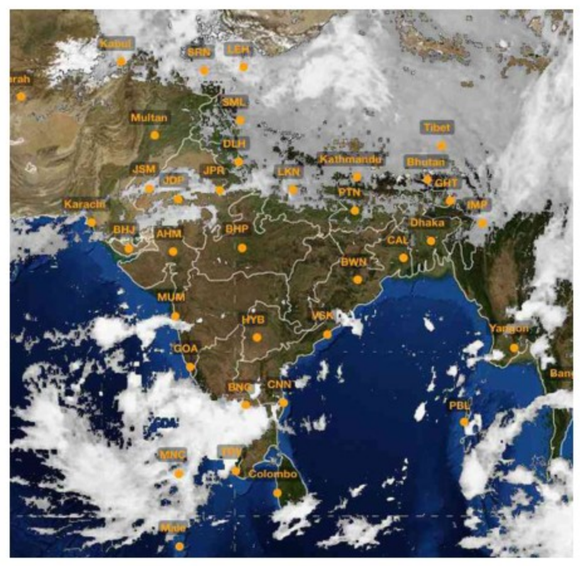
Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre on Wednesday refuted Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy's claim that the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. (KIOCL) paid ₹500 crore to the Forest Department for the Devadari mining project. He said the KIOCL was, in fact, yet to pay dues to the tune of ₹1,400 crore to the Forest Department for damage to the environment when it undertook mining in Kudremukh area. This included ₹119.12 crore for illegally increasing the height of Lakya dam. Stating that the Forest Department had the responsibility of protecting and conserving environment, he accused Mr. Kumaraswamy of politicising the mining issue. "Additionally, as cited by the Comptroller and Auditor General, KIOCL must also pay ₹1,349.52948 crore, including interest, as compensation for the net present value of the land," Mr. Khandre said.

He further said that the company must return 1,334.33 hectares of land, which includes 114.3 hectares of its own land and 1,220.03 hectares of government revenue land to the Forest Department.

Mr. Khandre said that while KIOCL was carrying out mining operations, 27% of the soil was deposited in Lakya dam and currently, about 150 million tonne of soil has accumulated there

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18—.00 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Rayalaseema, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Telangana, Marathwada, Tamil Nadu and Karaikal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	33.4	25.0	Kozhikode	0.3	28.6	25.1
Ahmedabad	—	36.9	26.5	Kurnool	0.9	27.2	24.9
Aizawl	—	30.5	20.2	Lucknow	—	34.4	20.0
Allahabad	—	35.1	22.4	Madurai	—	33.7	24.1
Bengaluru	66	22.1	19.6	Mangaluru	13	29.8	23.1
Bhopal	—	33.8	23.0	Mumbai	1	34.4	25.4
Bhubaneswar	—	35.2	25.2	Mysuru	3.8	31.0	20.0
Chandigarh	—	33.0	18.4	New Delhi	—	35.4	19.0
Chennai	143	27.1	23.8	Patna	—	33.9	24.6
Coimbatore	5	28.2	22.8	Port Blair	3	31.5	25.5
Dehradun	—	30.2	17.7	Puducherry	—	—	—
Gangtok	19	17.3	14.6	Pune	4.5	34.4	24.2
Goa	6	30.4	24.9	Raipur	—	34.0	25.2
Guwahati	10	28.9	22.9	Ranchi	6	30.2	21.0
Hubballi	—	28.0	22.0	Shillong	—	22.4	11.4
Hyderabad	13	30.8	23.3	Shimla	—	25.6	13.8
Imphal	—	29.3	21.7	Srinagar	—	26.0	6.9
Jaipur	—	36.8	20.7	Thiruvananthapuram	—	31.6	25.1
Kochi	24	29.2	23.8	Tiruchi	—	30.0	25.0
Kohima	2	20.4	14.0	Vijayawada	0.2	32.0	26.4
Kolkata	—	32.7	26.8	Visakhapatnam	22	31.8	26.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	3	18	.26	105	116	
Bengaluru	.11	.29	.94	45	46	
Chennai	5	.19	.58	28	35	
Delhi	.15	.90	.51	260	338	
Hyderabad	8	.36	.84	29	58	
Kolkata	6	.44	.62	207	121	
Lucknow	.15	.11	.32	94	146	
Mumbai	2	.44	.34	73	122	
Pune	8	.99	104	59	73	
Visakhapatnam	9	.38	.29	30	34	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Hapur, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 301 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Palkalaiperur, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 16

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Clarification

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

In the report, 'DGCA probe into incident at Tiruchi airport begins', published on October 13, 2024, safety aviation expert Captain Mohan Ranganathan was quoted as saying: "It seems that neither the engineer nor the pilot conducted a walkaround before the take-off, and they forgot to remove the landing gear pin." In response to this, the Air India Express has said such a claim is speculative and inaccurate.

"If the nose landing gear pin had not been removed, it is unlikely that the landing gear would have retracted after take-off. As the DGCA investigation is ongoing, such speculation undermines the process and risks reputational harm to Air India Express," it said.

Samsung employees call off strike

Kunal Shankar
KANCHEEPURAM

More than 1,200 workers of Samsung India, employed at its facility in Sriperumbudur, unanimously decided to withdraw their 38-day-long strike on Wednesday.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the employees in Kancheepuram town, presided over by the recently formed Samsung India Workers' Union's (SIWU) honorary president, A. Soundararajan.

The move follows assurances from Samsung and the SIWU after three rounds of the government-organised conciliation meetings led by Ministers T.R.B. Rajaa, C.V. Ganesan and E.V. Velu.

The workers want the firm to honour the proposals made at these meetings. The four proposals that have been agreed to by the management and the union are – that no punitive action be taken against the protesting workers; no wage cuts be made for the duration of the protest; that workers not take any action prejudicial to the management; and that Samsung submit written replies to the charter of demands placed by the SIWU before the conciliation officer.

Meanwhile, the next tripartite meeting is slated to be held on November 7.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my client Mr.Manjunath Kovalli S/o. Shankar "called as PURCHASER", is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from Mr.Manoj Bhaskaran, and his Children Ms.Tanishka Manoj and Prathana Manoj ; any person/s, Bank, Financial Institution, Company etc., objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before 7 days from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Flat bearing No.405, in Fourth Floor, measuring 1024 Square Feet Super Built Up Area, containing Two Bed Rooms, with RCC Roofing, Vitrified Flooring ,together with One Covered Car Parking Space in the stilt, constructed on Converted Sy.No.98/3, BBMP Katha SL No.3574 (presently bearing amalgamated Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Katha No. 10/98/3/1), situated at Rachenahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk,in a building known as "GLADIOLA GARDENIA" together with 435 Square Feet undivided share.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 8660553368
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my clients have negotiated for purchase of the immovable Property described in the schedule hereunder from its owners:

1. SRI. S. BHASKAR, aged about 70 years ,
2. SRI. S. MANJUNATH, aged about 65 years,
3. SRI. S. RAMESH, aged about 62 years
4. SRI. S. VISHWANATH, aged about 58 years
5. SRI. S. BHANUPRAKASH, aged about 51 years

All are sons of Sri. S. Subramanyam
All are presently camping at No.252, 1st Stage Binnamangala, BANGALORE - 560 038.
Whereas the owners claims that they are the absolute owners thereof
It is hereby informed to the general public that any person/s, agent/s, Bank/s Financial Institution/s, etc, having any manner of claims, charge, mortgage, right, title and Interest, sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, charge, lien, gift, trust, maintenance, inheritance, possession, lease, license, easement or otherwise of whatsoever nature, howsoever etc., in respect of the schedule property are hereby informed to make the same known to the undersigned in writing supported by documents as proof and evidence, within a period of 14 days from the date of Publication of this notice, failing which the claim/s or objections shall be considered will be deemed to have been waived and/discharged forever my client will be advised to go ahead and complete the sale formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the Immovable House property bearing B.D.A Site No.252, P.I.D.No.82-1-252, Situated at 1st Stage Binnamangala Old Ward No.82, New Ward No.80, Bangalore, site measuring East to West : 60 feet and North to South : 40 + 37/2 feet totally Measuring 2310 Square feet together with existing building Ground Floor, First Floor and Second Floor and bounded on the : East by : Road, West by : Site No.227, North by : Road, South by : Site No.251

Sd/- G. VIJAYAKUMAR, Advocate
No.64, 4th Cross, Indiranagar 2nd Stage,
BANGALORE - 560 038.
Mobile : 98840 67439 / Phone 25200773

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, our clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its Owner SRI.HIRACHAND S JAIN S/o Sri.Sardarmal J Jain, residing at Flat No.2201, 22nd Floor, Manikchand 117FF, Kanakapura Road, 7th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560070. If any persons have any manner of claim, right, title, interest or demand of any nature in or over the Schedule Property, they are hereby requested to file their objections along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying, with the undersigned within 14 (Fourteen) days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on our clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Municipal No.26 (CITB/BDA Site No.A/20), PID No.59-92-26, measuring East to West 38.6 ft and North to South 52.6 ft, in all measuring 2021.25 Sq.ft, with a building thereon, situated at 32nd Cross Road, 7th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru, within the administrative jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.166-karisandra and bounded as follows:

East by : Property bearing No.A/16
West by : Property bearing No.A/24
North by : Property bearing No.A/19
South by: 32nd Cross Road

Sd/- BAYYA REDDY. M
For ISHA LAW CHAMBERS LLP
Advocates & Solicitors
No.101, 2nd Floor, Sri Manjunatha Complex, 22nd Main Road,
BSK 2nd Stage, Opp : Banashankari BDA Complex, Bengaluru-560070

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Open E-Tender Notice

मंडल रेल प्रबंधक (कै व वै) जयपुर उ.प.रे. भारत के राष्ट्रपति महोदय एवं उनकी ओर से खुली ई–निविदा संख्या–M-443-6-Activity based -FL-1 जिसकी बंद होने की तिथि 06.11.24 समय 15:00 बजे तक का है, के लिए ई–निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। कोई भी मैन्युअल टेन्डर स्वीकार नहीं किया जायेगा ओर अगर कोई मैन्युअल टेण्डर प्राप्त होता है तो उस पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। कार्य का नाम व स्थान : Activity based Outsourcing work for housekeeping, rake examinations and ROH activities at Phulera wagon care complex/depot & yard Examination at Alik MNDV for a period of two years. अनुमानित लागत :रु. 107107278.54/– (मात्र दस करोड़ इकत्तर लाख सात हजार दो सो अठत्तर रूपये चौवन पैसे) बिड सिक्यूरिटी: रु. 685600.00/– (मात्र छः लाख पिच्यासी हजार छः सौ रु.) ई–निविदा की अंतिम दिनांक और समय : दिनांक 06.11.24 समय 15.00 बजे तक ई – निविदा खोलने की दिनांक और समय : दिनांक 06.11.24 समय 15.30 बजे तक वेब साईट का विवरण : www.ireps.gov.in

1190-DR/24

Please join us on /NWRailways /NWRailways_

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my clients MR. RAJESH R S/o. Mr. Radhakrishna and MR. VENKATACHALAM R S/o.Mr.Radhakrishnan R/at #482, 2nd Cross Flower Garden, Babusapalya, Kalyannagar, Bangalore-560043 [purchasers herein], have purchased the schedule property mentioned hereunder from MS. VIDYA G. D/o. Mr.S. Gopal [seller herein] for valuable consideration amount in terms of registered sale deed; the seller has also handed over the possession of the schedule property to the purchasers.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Residential property being Eastern Portion of Site No.4, formed out of Property No.81/2 and 81/2, Katha No.81/2/81/4/4, BBMP Katha Sl. No.1260, Situated at Horamavu Agara Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, Measuring East to West 20 Feet and North to South 35.5 Feet, in all measuring 710 Square Feet, along with a 1 Square AC Sheet Roofed house standing thereon, BBMP Ward No.25 and bounded on the:

East by : Site No.3; West by : Remaining Western portion of same Site No.4; North by : Property belongs to Narayanashetty and sons; South by : Road;

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 8660553368
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my client Mr.Eric Lawerence S/o. Mr. Lawrence Cellakan, is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from Mrs. Betsey Mathew w/o Mr. Sanoop George ; any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before 7 days from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Immovable property bearing site No.8, House List Khatha No. 544, property No.1/6B, measuring East side 50 feet, Western side 57 feet, Northern Side 50 feet, Southern side 50 feet in all measuring 2675 sq.ft. known as "Woods Enclave" at Geddalahalli village, K.R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, & bounded on the : East by : Private Property, West by : Road, North by : Site No.7, South by : Private property.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
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Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 8660553368
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

REGIONAL CANCER CENTRE
MEDICAL COLLEGE PO, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 11.
Phone : 0471 2522278

No. RCC/462/2022-ADMN-2 Dated: 14.10.2024

Applications are invited for the post of
NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST
on contract basis in Nuclear Medicine Division of Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India.
Last date of receipt of application **30.10.2024**.
For more details please visit our website: **www.rcctvm.gov.in**

D3/627/2024 Sd/- DIRECTOR

LUCKNOW DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(ISO 14001 : 2004, ISO 9001-2008 प्रमाणित संस्था)
Pradhikaran Bhawan, Vipin Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010 (U.P.)
Website: www.ldaonline.co.in, Email : ldacecivil@gmail.com

Tender No.1741/अपर सचिव/बल्क सेल/24 Date : 16.10.2024

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (NIT)

Expression of Interests are invited from experienced agencies for the **"Expression of Interest for Selection of Agency for Development, Marketing and Sale of Proposed IT City as per the New Township Policy on a land parcel admeasuring approximately 1582 acres situated near Sultanpur Road, Lucknow".**

Detail of Works	Tender Fees	EMD	Expression of Interest Opening Time	Expression of Interest Opening Date
Expression of Interest for Selection of Agency for Development, Marketing and Sale of Proposed IT City as per the New Township Policy on a land parcel admeasuring approximately 1582 acres situated near Sultanpur Road, Lucknow	Nil	Nil	1400 Hrs	16.11.2024

Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) invites experienced agency for Development, Marketing and Sale of proposed IT City on a land parcel admeasuring approximately 1582 acres situated near Sultanpur Road, Lucknow.

The Expression of Interest (EoI) document for the **"Expression of Interest for Selection of Agency for Development, Marketing and Sale of Proposed IT City as per the New Township Policy on a land parcel admeasuring approximately 1582 acres situated near Sultanpur Road, Lucknow"** can be downloaded from the e-procurement website **http://etender.up.nic.in.** Key dates for this EoI are as below:

- Bid Start Date : **17.10.2024, 1200 hrs**
- **Pre Bid Meeting Date** : **28.10.2024, 11.30 hrs**
- Last date of submission of proposals : **14.11.2024, 1200 hrs**
- Date of opening of technical proposal : **16.11.2024, 1400 hrs**
- Date of opening of financial bid : **NA**

The Authority reserves the full right to change the terms and conditions in the EoI and scope herein and/or terminate the EoI process at any stage without assigning any reasons and without any prior notice and no claim of any nature from anyone in this regard shall be entertained.

Additional Secretary

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **TRIAKSHA** Arjun, D/o Gopanna B.A, Rekha D Rao, and W/o Arjun T P, residing at No.761, Ground Floor, Sushonithi's Thulasi Nivas, 8th Main, 8th Cross, 4th Block, BEL Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Keerthana G Bharadwaj to Triaksha Arjun Henceforth, I shall be known and called as Triaksha Arjun only, vide affidavit dated 15/10/2024, sworn before advocate and notary K C Pemmaiah, at Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **PUTTA ARASAMMA**, W/o. Late K.G. Govindappa, aged about 86 years, residing at No. 90, "GOPU", 1st Main Road, Near Indira Canteen, MLA Lay Out, New BEL Road, II Stage RMV Extension, Bengaluru-560094, do hereby declare that my name is **PUTTA ARASAMMA**. In some records my name is shown as **PUTTARASAMMA** which is not correct. This is declared in the affidavit dated 16.10.2024, and same is sworn before Prakasha .C, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **KRISHNA** Sharma, Spouse of Service No.13649983F, Rank: Civil Defence (Tailor), Name: Raj Kumar Sharma, R/a P.R.T.C, J.C.Nagar, Bangalore-560006 hereby state that my Name and DOB is wrongly mentioned as Krishna & 11/01/1985 in my husband service records but my correct name & actual DOB is Krishna Sharma and 20/01/1987 vide affidavit dt: 15.10.2024 sworn before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, B'luru

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client intends to purchase the immovable property described in the schedule hereunder from its owner viz. Smt.Hemalatha, D/o. S. Muddaveerappa, Aged about 53 years, Residing at 456, 10th Main, 3rd Stage, 4th Block, West of Chord Road, Bengaluru - 560079.

Any person/s claiming to have any charge, lien, interest, minor claims, right/s whatsoever over the schedule property may lodge their claim to the undersigned with documentary proof within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of this Public Notice, failing which it will be presumed that there are no objections or claims in respect of the schedule property and further my client shall proceed with the intended purchase. No claims shall be entertained thereafter.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential Site bearing No.886/H, intermediate, situated in 78A-01G, Survey Numbers 17, 18/1 to 6, 20, 23, 30, 31, 32, 36/1, 37, 64, 71, 95, 96, 97, 98, 112[19], 135 to 137[17] of Nagarbhavi Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore District, Bangalore Private Layout formed by Sri Vinayaka House Building Co-operative Society Limited, measuring East to West 30'-0" feet, North to South 60'-0" feet and bounded on the:-

East by : Site No.886/I;
West by : Site No.886/G;
North by : Pathway;
South by : Road.

M/s. Dasharath & Mukkannappa Legal,
Advocates,
#3053, High Point III, 5th floor, Palace Road,
Bangalore-560 001. Ph. 9945666618

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
Office of the Additional Chief Engineer, Drainage Circle, Balasore.
Email ID : sedcbls@yahoo.com
"e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE NO.- ACEDCBLS-01/2024-25

1.	Name of the Work	Drainage Works (Under D.I.P. Scheme)
2.	Name of Project	1 No of individual work
3.	Estimated Cost of individual Works	Estimate cost of individual work Rs.7,66,54,075/- (Excluding G.S.T.)
4.	Period of Completion	18 (Eighteen Calendar month)
5.	Bid Identification Number	ACEDCBLS/DDJPR-01-01-2024-25
6.	Date & Time of availability of Bid document in the Portal	From 17.10.24 at : 10 hours to 06.11.24 at : 17 hours
7.	Date of Opening of technical bid	Dt.07.11.2024 at:11.30 hours, In the Office of the Additional Chief Engineer, Drainage Circle, Balasore.
8.	Date of Opening of Financial bid	To be uploaded in portal
9.	Date of Lottery (if required)	To be notified
10.	Procurement Officer/Name & address of the Officer Inviting Bids	Additional Chief Engineer, Drainage Circle, Balasore.

Further details can be seen from the Govt. Web site : www.tendersorissa.gov.in .
A-429 : Additional Chief Engineer, Drainage Circle, Balasore.
OIPR-32190/11/0001/2425

Government of Karnataka
MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DIVISION BIDAR

No EE/MI&GWD/BDR/TS-1/Tender/2024-25/ 1257 Date: 15-10-2024

KPP -PROCUREMENT TENDER DETAILS

1) Name of Works : As mentioned in KPP-Portal, 2) Estimate cost of Work : As mentioned in KPP -Portal, 3) Eligibility of Contractor : As mentioned in KPP -Portal 4) Amount put to tender : As mentioned in KPP -Portal, 5) Cost of tender form & Details of EMD: As mentioned in KPP -Portal, 6) Last date & time for tender queries/ clarifications KW-4 Only : 24-10-2024 Up to 17-00 Hours, 7) Pre-Bid meeting Place, date & time KW-4 Only : Office of the, Ex.Engr. MI & GWD Divn. Partapnagar, Naubad, Bidar on 21-10-2024 at 11:00 AM, 8) Last Date & Time for receipt of KW-4 Only : 30-10-2024 Up to 16.00 Hours, 9) Date & time for opening Technical bid KW-4 Only : 01-11-2024 @ 11.00 Hours if possible, 10) Date & time for opening financial bid KW-4 Only : 04-11-2024 @ 11.00 Hours if possible, 11) For any clarification and details , office to be contacted : Executive Engineer, MI & GWD Division Bidar Phone/ Fax : 08482 232080, 12) Website details : KPP portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/Bidar/207/KSMC&A/2024-25

Sd/- Executive Engineer
MI & GWD Division, Bidar

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my client Mr.M.Manju W/o Mr.K. Murugan[purchaser herein], is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from Mr.Clement Gnanakan @ Clement John Gnanakan S/o. Mr. Guru Gnanakan [seller herein] ; the seller has handed over the possession of the schedule property to the purchaser with permission to erect hoarding board and cleaning. Any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof with the under mentioned advocate failing which; my client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing BBMP Katha Sl. No.1680, House List/Katha No.92/5/8, situated at Horamavu Agara Village, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk erstwhile Bangalore South Taluk, Measuring East to West 35 Feet and North to South 68.45 Feet in all measuring 2395.75 Square Feet, BBMP Ward No.25 and being bounded on the:

East by : Property bearing Katha No.7, West by : Property bearing Katha No.10 North by : Road South by : Private Property;

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 8660553368
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Director of Printing, Stationery Publications
R.V. College Post, 8th Mile, Mysore Road,
Bengaluru - 560 059, Phone: 080-28484515/080-28484518

Notification No. DPS/PURC/TDRC/1/2024-PUR/Stationery Dated: 15/10/2024

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(through KPP Portal)

Online Tenders are invited for the **Supply of Stationery Materials** on rate contract basis. Estimated total value of the Tender is about Rs. 92.00 lakhs & total EMD is Rs. 4.60 lakhs. Last date for Submission of Tender 04-11-2024, 17.30 hrs. For details please visit Website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. For any further clarifications the above office may be contacted.

DIPR/CP/2575/AKAR/2024-25

Sd/-
Director (I/c)

Canadian frostbite

India must consider the impact of its next steps on its diplomacy and image

After a year of frosty exchanges and declining relations, India and Canada have declared diplomatic war, as India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) revealed this week that the Canadian government had sought to investigate and even interrogate the Indian High Commissioner and five other diplomats, naming them "persons of interest" for the killing of Khalistani activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. Mr. Nijjar, who was shot dead in June 2023 in British Columbia, was wanted by India. In a press conference, the Canadian police (RCMP) detailed their suspicions that the Indian diplomats were somehow involved with an Indian criminal network they believe is responsible for the killing, as well in the targeting of some in the Indian diaspora. The Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has alleged political interference by India's diplomats, something hitherto it had accused China of. India's MEA has called the charges "preposterous", accusing Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of orchestrating the investigations for political gain with a pro-separatist Khalistani votebank, given his record-low ratings ahead of the 2025 general election. India also accused what it called the Canadian "regime" for providing space to "violent extremists and terrorists to ... intimidate Indian diplomats and community leaders...", in the name of free speech. Delhi and Ottawa have each expelled six diplomats. With the reduced staff strength in the High Commissions in both capitals and an outraged India reserving the right to further action, it could well mean drastic cuts in visas and curtailed direct travel links.

With the die cast for worsening ties, New Delhi must consider carefully the impact of its next steps not only on Indian diplomacy but also India's image. While it is imperative to defend India's diplomats, it is equally important to investigate the allegations that Indian intelligence agencies have overstepped in operations in the case. The RCMP's naming of Indian underworld gangster Lawrence Bishnoi must also be investigated. As India's adversaries seek to draw links between allegations against Indian intelligence and national security operations in Pakistan, the UAE, Qatar, Canada and the U.S., even India's close partners are looking askance. The U.S.'s statement, that India should cooperate with Canada, must be seen as evidence of that. India's dual policy towards the Nijjar case, which it outrightly rejects any connection to, and the Pannun case in the U.S. – it has sent a high-level inquiry team – also raises questions. The government must prove it has nothing to hide. It must also be more transparent about how it expects to deal with this challenge, and to reports that link Canada's allegations to India's top leadership including National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Home Minister Amit Shah. Above all, New Delhi must step up an international campaign to ensure accountability from Canada: to either present verifiable evidence, or to stop casting this shadow over India's reputation and its diplomats.

Abject failure

India's 2024 Global Hunger Index ranking is a matter of concern

The 2024 Global Hunger Index (GHI) suggests that India's undernourished population this year would effectively rank as the seventh most populous country in the world – with roughly the population of Brazil, a staggering 200 million people. In stark terms, this is about 14% of India's existing population. The 2024 GHI, which is the report's 19th edition, considers comprehensive sets of data in its findings. In India's case, it considers the Sample Registration System statistical reports, that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation publishes annually, which provide data such as on births, deaths, infant and maternal mortality, based on reports by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and NITI Aayog.

In 2024, the scorecard for the 127 nations analysed ranges from "low" to "extremely alarming". While India is ranked "serious" (rank 105 and score 27.3), it might as well be considered "extremely alarming" if one considers various other relevant factors. It also establishes the abject and systemic failure by the Indian state to address the most basic of human needs – of adequate food and nutrition that are essential to reap the benefits of the much touted 'demographic dividend'. India was the world's fastest growing economy, at 6.8% in FY24, with an estimated GDP of almost $4 trillion, ranking fifth globally. However, its per capita income, of $2,485 in FY24, was less than a fourth of the global average of $13,920 in FY22, indicating the wide income inequality that would result in vastly varied disposable incomes. This is pertinent as food inflation more than doubled between FY22 and FY24, from 3.8% to 7.5%, affecting the poor. Even as the Economic Survey for 2023-24 blames this on 'extreme weather events, low reservoir levels and damaged crops, affecting farm output', India recorded one of its highest levels of food production – 332 million tonnes in 2023-24. This was largely due to bumper crops in rice and wheat, though pulses and vegetables were affected by extreme weather events. But these numbers when read with India's infant mortality – 26 per 1,000 live births in 2022, while the global average was 28 – and child stunting and wasting rates, of 35.5% and 18.7%, respectively, are revealing. They point to a failure of India's health-care and safety net systems and the denial to address what is apparent, namely, climate change that has already begun to cast a long shadow on India's food security.

The battle cry for justice in the 'City of Joy'

Subhanil Chowdhury

economist and editor of the Bengali journal, Arek Rakam

The brutal rape and murder of a junior woman doctor at R.G. Kar Medical College in Kolkata, in August 2024, has generated a historic people's movement in West Bengal. Over the last two months, the 'City of Joy' has become a city of processions. People have been active in a variety of ways – women have gathered in large numbers at the stroke of midnight in urban localities across the State; lights have been switched off for some time as an expression of their solidarity with the demand for justice; slogans have been written and poetry recited on the streets, and the police and the administration have been challenged. But, more importantly, the movement has expressed a lack of trust in the Trinamool Congress-led government in the State, a party that won decisively just a few months ago in parliamentary seats in the 2024 general election.

People-government dynamics

As we write, the junior doctors are on a historic hunger strike on a 10-point charter of demands including 'Justice for RG Kar'. Even during the Durga Pooja, thousands of people have participated in demonstrations in solidarity with the doctors. The movement began with junior doctors in R.G. Kar demanding justice for the victim. The slogans of the movement, 'Justice for RG Kar' and 'We want Justice', have practically become a part of the Bengali lexicon. A closer look at the movement shows that it has grown without the leadership of any political party. The element of spontaneity is unmissable. The people have made it clear that it is their movement and are unwilling to accept any political attempt to claim leadership or the moral high ground.

Why are the people, who just a few months ago, voted decisively for the Trinamool Congress, now on the streets demanding justice for a victim of rape and murder, when the State Chief Minister herself has time and again made the same demand and expressed solidarity with the movement? To understand this, we need to take a deeper look at the political economy of Trinamool Congress rule in the State, its relationship with the people in general, and the middle class and upper middle classes in particular.

It is true that the movement is largely a movement of the middle and upper middle classes in West Bengal. An obvious reason is that the case is about a doctor on duty who was raped and murdered. Bengali upper, middle and lower class households attach great importance to education. Given that entrepreneurship is missing in the average Bengali, they are of the view that the upward mobility of the next generation is possible only through higher education, particularly of a technical kind. The rape and murder of the doctor is also a horrific incident under the jurisdiction of a government institution. It has shaken the middle class who now perceive that the dream of upward mobility can be shattered even after a child gets the best possible education.

The people's movement, 'Justice for RG Kar', is also a battle against a system that perpetuates many injustices

A State's economic decline, corruption

This perception of a serious threat to upward mobility and social position is not merely a result of this incident. Rather, this movement is also a culmination of growing frustration within the middle class about the economy of the State. The relative position of the State in India, in terms of GDP share, has been in steady decline for decades. The investment scenario has also witnessed similar decline. The employment situation in the State is precarious. But this was also true under the erstwhile Left Front government rule. However, the recruitment of school teachers and college professors through a somewhat transparent School and College Service Commission ensured a modicum of fairness in the system. But the Trinamool Congress government has destroyed this idea of fairness with rampant corruption in important government jobs.

In 2022, the incarceration of the erstwhile Education Minister in the School Service Commission scam showed the degree of involvement of top government functionaries in corruption. The arrest of top Ministers and Trinamool Congress leaders in various scams also showed how the system has become highly corrupt and susceptible to rigging by those in power. In the R.G. Kar case too, there are serious allegations of corruption against the former college principal and the presence of a corrupt syndicate operating in the health system. The R.G. Kar murder case is perceived by the people to be a result of this corrupt system. The CBI is also looking at this angle. Allegations of a cover-up by the police and the hospital administration have further strengthened the perception that the system is rigged by the ruling party and its supporters.

The corruption and extortion racket that exists in West Bengal must be seen in the context of the lack of capital investment and development. In the absence of regular inflows of new capital in the State, the ruling machinery's source of finances is said to be outsourced to local leaders, who run their own fiefdoms and extract resources and money from the people at will. The violence during local elections in West Bengal is the result of these political lords trying to protect their 'fiefdoms' at any cost.

The top leadership of the Trinamool Congress grants, what political scientist Dwaipayan Bhattacharya calls 'franchisees' to these local lords, in return for votes and complete loyalty to the top leadership. Government schemes are used to politically manage this extortionist regime where active opposition to the ruling party might debar the poor from accessing the schemes. The large unorganised sector cannot operate without paying a 'levy' to the ruling party and gaining permission for business.

In other words, the system is based on extortion and corruption on the one hand and a distribution of public goods through the mediation of government and ruling party on the other. In this system of political management and extortion, the idea of 'justice' and fairness takes a beating. It is in this context that the word 'justice' becomes a crucible where people who have faced myriad injustices from the system gather with their discontent and express their dissatisfaction with the government.

The core of the protests

Is this the beginning of the end of the TMC government? The jury is still out on this. At this juncture a few observations can be made. First, this movement, as of now, remains non-partisan as it has not allowed any political party any space. The largest Opposition party in the State, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), tried and failed. The Left, for the time being, is going with the people's sentiment and asking its cadres to participate in the movement wholeheartedly, without any one-upmanship. That people are not allowing the intervention of any Opposition party is also symbolic of 'a no-confidence' in them. The movement's main slogan is 'justice' and not the ouster of the government. But the huge mass upsurge will have political and electoral ramifications. What direction this will take remains to be seen.

Second, while the movement has support within the rural and poor populations, they are yet to come out on to the streets in large numbers. This is not surprising given the dependence of the poor on the government and the ruling party for their livelihood. Any challenge to the ruling party by the poor may rob them of their source of livelihood. The poor are assessing the situation in terms of whether a credible alternative to the Trinamool Congress emerges. This also holds true for Muslims in the State. With the emergence of the BJP as the main Opposition party and the waning of the Left and the Congress, the Trinamool Congress has emerged as the option for them to keep the BJP out. It is true that Muslim voters are also victims of the corrupt syndicate raj created by the TMC. However, as long as a powerful secular alternative to the Trinamool Congress does not emerge, it is difficult for the Muslims to decisively move against the TMC.

In short, West Bengal is poised at a critical juncture. State Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her government are facing the most difficult political challenge. If it is proved that the police and government machinery were involved in destroying evidence and shielding the culprits, then the challenge for Ms. Banerjee will only increase. The people are resolute in their demand for justice. In this system of many injustices, the people, through their collective assertions, want to see 'Justice for RG Kar', in the hope that this will open up the long road to 'Justice for all'.

Spotlighting the work of the Economics Nobel winners

Rohith Jyothish

Assistant Professor at the Jindal School of International Affairs, O.P. Jindal Global University

The Great Divergence is a term used to describe the gap in economic and political development between the west and the east. It emerges from this idea that in the 17th and the 18th centuries, the advantages that western Europe enjoyed due to industrialisation allowed them to project political power elsewhere. This in turn helped them to reap economic rewards. One of the most relevant findings that emerged from this scholarship is the idea that institutions established during colonialism can have persistent effects many years after countries transitioned to sovereign rule.

Institutions and development

The winners of this year's Economics Nobel, or the Sveriges Riksbank Prize awarded for economic sciences, Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James Robinson (AJR), pioneers in new institutional economics, emphasised the role of institutions in the direction of development. Institutions are constraints on human behaviour, the rules of the game in the form of law and order that prevent the state or any other party from the coercive use of force on those who cannot defend themselves. This can take the shape of the constitutional limits on the powers of an executive. Institutions exert their effect through incentives, such as the traffic fines on a busy street that nudges a driver from breaking the speed limit.

AJR's work has highlighted the role of extractive institutions in shaping a country's growth trajectory. Extractive institutions are common in history because they still offer the possibility of generating prosperity but distribute the fruits of growth to a small group of elites. Inclusive institutions, on the other hand, have rules and incentives that motivate people. Colonialism established extractive institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and South Asia while there are relatively fewer extractive institutions in the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. AJR's seminal work was in establishing how these institutions have a causal impact on economic growth. They assembled archival evidence to show differences in settler mortality rates in tropical and temperate countries. For instance, settler colonists of Australia and the U.S. settled there in large numbers due to a relatively disease-free environment while colonists who settled in more tropical countries were wiped due to disease.

AJR have emphasised the role of institutions in development but there has been criticism of this approach as privileging western liberal institutions

The key to this type of research was the natural experiment. Social scientists usually cannot manipulate the variables they study like natural scientists running a clinical trial. What they can do is create research design innovations that approximate true experiments. They find observational settings in which causes are randomly assigned among units that they can compare such as individuals, villages, cities or countries. A simple comparison across these units exposed to the presence or absence of a cause can provide evidence for the effects that that particular cause has.

Investigations in India

The biggest contribution by AJR is in inspiring several studies that looked at the long-term effects of historical events on economic development where they identified new variables from detailed historical data. Two of the most well-known studies in this genre come from the Indian subcontinent.

Abhijit Banerjee and Lakshmi Iyer (2005) found that landlord-based colonial land tenure systems resulted in lower agricultural investments and productivity in those areas years later. Lakshmi Iyer (2010) showed that areas under direct colonial rule had fewer schools, health centres and roads than those under indirect colonial rule – an effect that seems to be fading away only recently.

Economic institutions are collective choices determined by political power. Political power can be de jure or de facto. The political power for Joe Biden does not come from the person but the office that he holds, the President of the United States of America. On the other hand, you cannot say the same for Teodoro Obiang Nguema, the President of Equatorial Guinea, one of the world's longest serving leaders. This would be de factor power.

The question of reform of an extractive institution is about the ability to solve a collective action problem through the economic resources available to them. What AJR's research has shown is that it is difficult for groups with conflicting interests to agree on what good institutions look like. Groups with political power will always have an incentive to use that power to change the distribution of resources in their favour.

A perspective

AJR's research came into prominence at a time when the economics profession was moving away from a presumptive policy framework to something more diagnostic. There was a deliberate move away from universal remedies such as the erstwhile shock therapy in Latin America or the Washington Consensus. Their approach is not without criticism. Acemoglu and Robinson have been sceptical about China's spectacular growth that is expected to slow down due to the eventual spread of extractive institutions.

However, scholars such as Yuen Yuen Ang have argued that AJR's approach tends to privilege western liberal institutions. When the U.S. was a developing country, they were as corrupt or engaged in risky practices quite similar to those undertaken in China today. The narrative of the import of inclusive institutions from western Europe is at odds with America's chequered history with slavery, exclusion of women from property rights, and genocide of Native Americans. Other scholars such as Onur Ulas Ince (2022) have also pointed out the reluctance of AJR to critically engage with the complexity of actually existing colonialism and capitalism.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fraying ties

The question that India has to ask itself is this: why has Canada come out with such startling allegations about our 'fundamental error' in violating its sovereignty in the matter of the Nijjar killing? The Prime Minister of Canada has eschewed diplomatic euphemisms and done plain-speaking about Indian machinations. India owes Canada a suitable reply instead of outright repudiation, casual dismissal, and expulsions of Canadian diplomats. Stout denial cannot be our foreign policy. Had there been a reversal of roles, there is no doubt that the Indian media would have gone to town with righteous indignation. Our credibility is at stake.

R. Thomas Paul,
Bengaluru

The row is definitely getting murkier. However, it is a sort of an odd compliment to the power of the Indian diaspora — that in the course of history, the Prime Minister of a G-7 country not only woos an Indian migrant community in his country for votes but is also ready to 'walk the extra mile' to defend some terrorist elements.

S.R. Patnaik,
Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Problem solving

Authorities responsible for flood mitigation do not seem to learn from past experiences. Citizens, as mentioned by a letter writer from Chennai ('Letters to The Editor', October 16), are never in the loop for consultation or problem solving. This is because elected counsellors or their proxies rarely interact with people living in their wards.

Mohan Thomas,
Chennai

Reimagining access to justice

In the heart of India's legal system, from the Supreme Court in Delhi to modest district courts in rural Bihar, a quiet revolution has been in the making for decades. This revolution is not about abrogating colonial laws, drafting new laws, or ensuring speedier verdicts. Instead, it centres on the question – who foots the bill for justice? In this context, the idea of Third-Party Litigation Funding (TPLF) has quickly emerged as a game-changer, potentially opening courtroom doors for many who felt they had been shut out.

A small shopkeeper from Pune's markets, waging a lonely battle against a deep-pocketed e-commerce behemoth, or tribal villagers from Odisha challenging a polluting industrial giant – these are not just David and Goliath tales but real-life legal struggles that often end before they begin, not because of weak cases, but empty wallets. The idea behind TPLF is to rope investors in that would bankroll such legal battles in exchange for a cut of the winnings. The need for such an idea in India is painfully clear, given the massive pendency and skyrocketing litigation expenses. Unfortunately, we have reached a stage where justice is increasingly becoming a luxury only a few can afford.

Kumar Ritwik

Delhi-based Advocate, currently serving as a Judicial Clerk in the Supreme Court of India

Swagat Dash

Assistant Professor at School of Law, Birla Global University (Bhubaneswar) & a PhD Scholar at NLU, Delhi

'Potential equaliser'

The Supreme Court in a landmark judgment *Bar Council of India v. A.K. Balaji* cautiously gave a green signal to TPLF, viewing it as 'a potential equaliser in the courtroom' and categorically holding that TPLF was not off-limits as long as lawyers were not the ones bankrolling such cases. This stance is built on solid historical foundations from the 1876 Privy Council judgment *Ram Coomar Coondoo v. Chunder Canto Mookerjee*, which held that old English laws on champerty against such funding would not apply to India.

The ripple effects of TPLF could reach every corner of India. In fact, we may witness situations with consumer groups in Mumbai possibly banding together against food adulterators, Bengaluru's tech startups withstanding pressure against industry giants, tribes supported by NGOs taking on mining mafias without fear of financial ruin, and workers in textile mills facing unfair treatment being able to seek justice. In specialised fields such as medical malpractice or IPR, which heavily depend on expert testimonies, TPLF could honestly turn out to be the difference between a case being heard or silenced. TPLF might breathe new air into Public Interest Litigation, a powerful tool for social change since the 1980s.

Any novel concept cannot evolve without thorough analysis and criticism. Some worry that funders will cherry-pick only the most profitable cases, leaving socially crucial but less lucrative claims in the dust. Further, there is a thorny question of how much say a funder should ordinarily be granted in matters of case strategy. These concerns underscore the need for careful regulation. While States such as Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, and Gujarat have dipped their toes by amending their civil procedure codes to accord recognition to 'third-party financier of litigation', India still lacks a comprehensive national framework for TPLF. Such a regulatory framework is needed to ensure funders are both financially sound and ethically upright, to mandate transparency in funding deals, to protect clients' decision-making rights, and to cap funders' profits reasonably.

A more accessible legal system should also bring about stronger consumer safeguards in a country plagued by fake products, better environmental protection in rapidly-industrialising regions, and more accountable institutions across the board. With over ±80,000 cases pending at the top court and ±40 million pending cases across the nation, TPLF does offer more than a ray of hope. In a nation where 'justice for all' has long been a constitutional dream, TPLF might help turn it into reality – one funded lawsuit at a time.

In a nation where 'justice for all' has long been a constitutional dream, Third-Party Litigation Funding might help turn it into reality

As we turn to the question of structuring a regulatory framework governing TPLF, several significant issues crop up. One crucial consideration is whether litigation funders should be licensed as financial service providers. Its suitability pertaining to India requires careful assessment. Establishing a dedicated oversight body to monitor funders and regulate such funding is a topic that requires thoughtful deliberation and discussion. Capital adequacy is another critical concern in TPLF regulation. For instance, Hong Kong's Code of Practice for Third Party Funding in Arbitration 2019 mandates disclosure of financing details, information on adverse costs, liability for costs, and the extent of funder control. Similarly, India must evaluate if its mechanism of ordering security for costs addresses similar risks in the broader litigation context.

Determining the appropriate level of court involvement and the extent of court approval in TPLF arrangements is a complex question that requires resolution. Identifying the right degree of court intervention and recognising specific arrangements that necessitate such oversight will become foundational pillars in shaping a well-defined regulatory framework. This must reconcile access to justice with preserving judicial integrity.

As India takes active steps toward reimagining justice, TPLF presents both a challenge and an opportunity. By developing targeted and comprehensive regulations tailored to India's unique legal landscape, the country can foster a thriving ecosystem while safeguarding all parties' interests. In doing so, India might set a new global standard, balancing financial innovation with the fundamental right to justice.

Kerala's nuclear power dilemma

Experts suggest exploring alternative energy sources, such as solar power

STATE OF PLAY

Tiki Rajwi
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After a long gap, Kerala is again grappling with the merits and demerits of nuclear power plants. The topic grabbed headlines following a meeting earlier this year between the Chairman and Managing Director of the State-run Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) and the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd., where the possibility of building a plant in Kerala was discussed.

The State's Electricity Minister K. Krishnankutty has sought to tread lightly on the contentious issue. According to him, the government can scarcely embark upon such a project without consensus and public approval. In the just-concluded session of the State Assembly, Mr. Krishnankutty stated that the government has not adopted any policy decision regarding the construction of nuclear power stations.

In the meantime, there are reports that the KSEB has suggested Athirapilly in Thrissur and Cheemeni in northern Kasaragod as potential locations for a plant. Notably, the KSEB move came on the heels of the 2024-25 Union Budget announcement concerning plans to partner with the private sector for establishing Bharat Small Reactors. What makes the KSEB proposal significant is that its timing coincides with Kerala's struggle against a soaring demand for electricity. Internal generation, which largely hinges on hydropower satisfies a mere 30% of the requirement, forcing the southern State to bank heavily on power purchases.

In 2023-24 alone, spending on power purchases touched ₹12,983 crore, according to the KSEB. This fiscal year, it could rise to ₹15,000 crore. While the KSEB has set an ambitious target of achieving an installed power generation capacity of 10,000 MW by 2030, the State's present capability stands at a mere 3,419 MW.

Over the last several decades, ecological concerns have prevented Kerala from pursuing large hydro or thermal power projects. Most of the big hydel schemes are situated in the Western Ghats. On the other hand, the electricity demand has surged, placing Kerala under the perpetual threat of power shortages in the summer months. In April, power consumption surged by 15.62% and peak power demand by 12.38% compared with April 2023, according to data released by the electricity Minister's office.

While supporters of nuclear energy see it as a safe, relatively cheaper power source for energy-starved Kerala, detractors counter that it is a disaster waiting to happen.

The former argue that Kerala is already drawing electricity from the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP), built with Russian assistance in neighbouring Tamil Nadu. The latter points to the Chernobyl, Kyshtym, and Fukushima Daiichi disasters, highlighting the long-term implications of radioactive contamination, the unanswered questions regarding sustainable storage and disposal of radioactive waste, and the complexities of evacuation in a densely-populated State such as Kerala in the event of a disaster.

Experts in the State's power sector have instead suggested safer alternatives, such as solar power and pumped storage projects, to resolve the energy dilemma. In tapping solar energy, Kerala has made significant progress, with the capacity up from 16.99 MW in 2016 to 1215.65 MW today, according to State Power Department figures. Proposals for establishing a nuclear power plant in Kerala had begun doing the rounds in the 1980s; however, public outcry regarding safety prompted the State governments of that time to let such proposals fade away.

The debate re-emerged later in connection with the KKNPP. In 2012, CPI(M) veteran V.S. Achuthanandan stirred a political hornet's nest when he supported anti-Kudankulam demonstrations defying the party line.

Commenting on the recent KSEB move, the current Leader of the Opposition, V. D. Satheesan, advised a serious discussion rather than jumping to conclusions. In Kerala, a wider public debate on this issue has yet to emerge.

However, in shaping any opinion, the question of whether a nuclear power station is absolutely essential for Kerala cannot be ignored. While energy requirements cannot be overlooked, such discussions must also consider the State's population, its peculiar and ecologically-sensitive geography, and, its vulnerability to major disasters, the recent being the deadly landslides in the Wayanad district on July 30.

Cauvery awards work only during good monsoons

An overview of the water releases month-wise, since 2018, shows that the order was adhered to when rains were bountiful

DATA POINT

T. Ramakrishnan

The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT)'s prescription of the monthly schedule of the release of water by Karnataka to Tamil Nadu has been a bone of contention since the Tribunal's interim order in June 1991. Though the CWDT's final award, delivered in 2007, was modified by the Supreme Court 11 years later to address certain stakeholders' concerns, the court did not disturb the scheme of the monthly schedule.

Also, considering the growing requirements of Bengaluru city for drinking water, the court awarded an additional 4.75 TMC to Karnataka, along with 10 more TMC. Consequently, Tamil Nadu's overall allocation went down to 404.25 TMC from 419 TMC, as stipulated in the Tribunal's final award, and that of Karnataka rose to 284.75 TMC from 270 TMC. Of the total allocation for Tamil Nadu, Karnataka should release water from its reservoirs in such a manner that 177.25 TMC is realised by the lower riparian State annually (June-May) as per the monthly schedule.

The first four months of the water year – June-September or southwest monsoon (SWM) – are crucial for both the principal riparian States of the Cauvery river, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. It is during the June-September period that the upper riparian State, Karnataka, receives the most rainfall. For Tamil Nadu, these four months account for nearly 70% of the annual quota – 123.1 TMC – of inflows into the State.

This year's SWM was bountiful for both the riparian States compared to the previous year. Last year, the lack of adequate rainfall led to emotions running high in both States over the lack of water supply for irrigation. This year, however, as the social media handle of the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC) revealed, the gross storage of four reservoirs of the Cauvery basin at the end of the monsoon period (September 30) was almost 60% higher than what it was on the corresponding day last year.

In terms of TMC, this year's storage was about 110.83 TMC against the previous year's 59.85. This year's storage amounted to 97% of the gross capacity, 114.57 TMC. Karnataka's four reservoirs in the basin – Krishnaraja Sagar, Kabini, Hemavathi, and Harangi – received at least 80 TMC more this time compared to the 30-year average of cumulative inflows. According to the KSNDMC, a total of 338 TMC was received by the reservoirs during this year's SWM. With the bountiful rains and the reservoirs filling up, water supply should not be an issue in the coming months for both agricultural and drinking water purposes in Karnataka.

The story for the lower riparian State, Tamil Nadu also coheres with the above; this year's figure of Cauvery water realisation exceeded the 200 TMC mark, with nearly 204 TMC released to the State. The receipts are vital as Tamil Nadu's Cauvery delta relies mainly on water from the upper riparian State during the SWM since the northeast monsoon (NEM) is relatively unpredictable and erratic in terms of rainfall patterns. This is evident in the way the India Meteorological Department views the NEM – as one of large spatial variations.

The eastern part of the Cauvery Delta, also closer to the coast, receives heavy rainfall many times in November and December, but the rest of the State does not receive this frequency of rainfall.

Considering these factors, the CWDT and the Supreme Court retained the scheme of a monthly schedule for the release of water from the Karnataka reservoirs. This was done to ensure that Tamil Nadu receives the maximum amount of water from June to September. The measurement is done by taking the flow calculated at the Central Water Commission's gauge and discharge site in Biligundlu as the reference point.

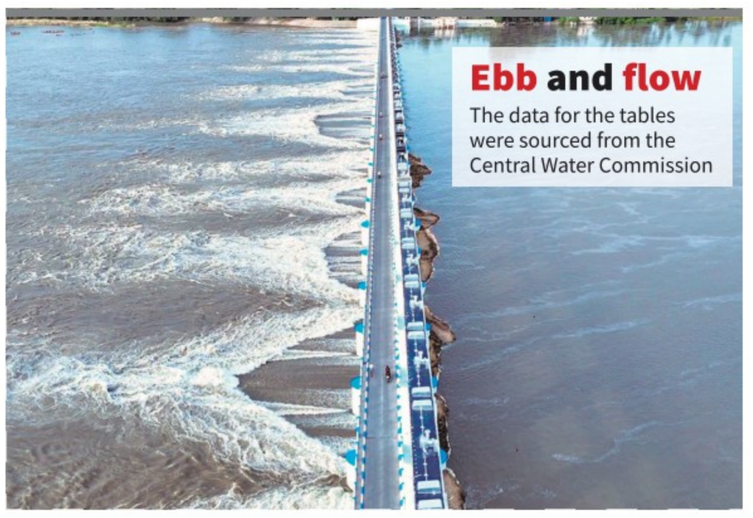
The overall water requirement for Tamil Nadu, assessed in the CWDT's report (volume 5, pages 85-86), is 390.85 TMC to provide irrigation to 24.71 lakh acres of cropping land. This figure includes 10 TMC for reservoir losses.

Even though this year's total figure of realisation has crossed the annual share, Tamil Nadu, at meetings of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) and Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC), both of which form part of the implementation mechanism of judicial verdicts, has been contending that Karnataka should stick to the schedule of monthly release and make good any shortfall that arose in June and September.

Data on water release shows that leaving aside the water year 2023-24 when the CMWA and CWRC, at regular intervals, modified the stipulated quantum of water release for a few months, the cumulative realisation during June-September fell short of the prescribed quantity only in two out of six years. **Table 1** shows that since 2018, the highest quantity – around 452 TMC – during the southwest monsoon was registered in 2022-23. The lowest was around 45 TMC in 2023-24, going purely by the statistical angle.

Chart 2 showing average figures of realisation month-wise for the SWM since 2018 – the year of the Supreme Court's judgment – reveals that August accounts for about 47% of the season's overall figure. July's share is 27% followed by September at around 23% with June constituting the rest.

This break-up across months is in line with the 42-year-long average figures (1974-75 to 2015-16) worked out by the Central Water Commission (CWC) which calculated August's share at 41%, July - 26%, September - 27% and June - 6%.



Ebb and flow
The data for the tables were sourced from the Central Water Commission

Table 1: The table shows the average figures of realisation month-wise for the southwest monsoon since 2018 — the year of the Supreme Court's judgment

STATEMENT OF FLOWS REALISED AT BILIGUNDLU

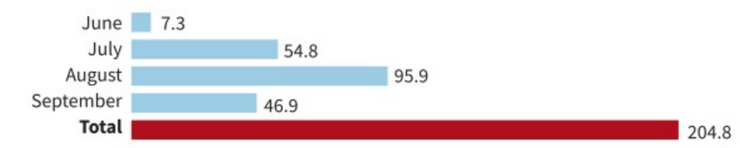
Figures in TMC

Month/period	Quantity as per Supreme Court's judgment of February 16, 2018	Quantity received 2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
June	9.2	13.3	2.1	6.2
July	31.2	124.7	7.4	11.3
August	46.0	176.5	92.3	57.5
September	36.8	31.5	71.7	45.2
Southwest monsoon season	**123.1**	**346.0**	**173.5**	**120.2**
Excess/shortfall		222.9	50.3	-2.9
Annual	**177.3**	**405.4**	**275.2**	**211.4**
Excess/shortfall		228.2	97.9	34.1

Month/period	Quantity as per Supreme Court's judgment of February 16, 2018	Quantity received 2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
June	9.2	7.7	16.5	2.8	2.3
July	31.2	28.0	106.9	8.7	96.5
August	46.0	22.6	223.6	20.0	78.4
September	36.8	33.1	105.5	13.6	27.6
Southwest monsoon season	**123.1**	**91.5**	**452.5**	**45.2**	**204.8**
Excess/shortfall		-31.7	329.3	-77.97*	81.7
Annual	**177.3**	**281.1**	**667.5**	**81.4**	**N.A.**
Excess/shortfall		103.8	490.3	-95.9*	N.A.

N.A. - not applicable. * worked out, if the year in question was a normal one

Chart 2: The chart shows the average realisation for the months of June to September over the last six years. Figures in TMC



Worked out by T. Ramakrishnan

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO OCTOBER 17, 1974

Indian goods exhibition at London trade centre

London, Oct. 16: Indian manufacturers of products ranging from mass consumption fashion goods to sophisticated electronics products are participating in an exhibition here at the World Trade Centre.

This is part of India's efforts to display a wide range of non-traditional export items. In the same spirit, the engineering goods Export Promotion Council office here opens a permanent showroom to-morrow.

India hopes to boost its exports to Britain by several million pounds and there is a concerted effort on the part of the Indian authorities to project a new image of industrial India. Most British importers think of India only in terms of textiles, tea, coffee, jute, and spices.

Over 900 buyers from importing companies, department stores, and mail order houses have accepted invitations to attend the current four-day "India 1974–Buyers and Sellers Meet" Exhibition at the World Trade Centre.

The Indian exhibitors are also expecting buyers from Continental and American companies to show up.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTOBER 17, 1924

Retrenchment at the Tatas.

Bombay, Oct 16: At a press interview Mr. B.D. Tata confirmed the report that emanated from Jamshedpur, that the Board of Directors of the Tata Iron and Steel Company have ordered retrenchment and economy in all possible ways. He said the copper coke ovens and one blast furnace, had been shut down. Consequently, one of the iron ore mines would not be worked. The requirements of the remaining four furnaces could be met from the other mines owned by the company. Mr. Tata added: Owing to heavy imports of steel from abroad, particularly from the continent of Europe, at prices with which it is impossible for the company to compete without incurring heavy losses, there is an unusually large accumulation of stocks in the yards at Jamshedpur. Consequently, production has to be cut down in order to avoid the locking up of large capital.

Asked as to the number of men thrown out of employment, Mr. Tata could not give the actual figure, but feared the number must run into hundreds.

From Page One

SCO meet: India, Pak. avoid accusations

"A productive meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government concluded in Islamabad today," the External Affairs Minister said on social media, adding that "India made a positive and constructive contribution to the deliberations."

During his speech, Mr. Jaishankar urged SCO members to have an "honest conversation".

"If trust is lacking or cooperation inadequate, if friendship has fallen short and good neighbourliness is missing somewhere, there are surely reasons to introspect and causes to address," he said. Pointing to India's concerns over China's Belt and Road Initiative, he said that cooperation on trade, investment, connectivity, and energy flows must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty issues.

Mr. Jaishankar referred to cross-border terrorism, but in terms of the SCO's 2001 charter's phrasing of the "three evils" in the region: terrorism, separatism, extremism.

"If activities across borders are characterised by terrorism, extremism and separatism, they are hardly likely to encourage trade, energy flows, connectivity, and people-to-people exchanges in parallel," Mr. Jaishankar said in his statement at Wednesday morning's plenary session, avoiding specific Indian concerns over terror-financing, "justifications for terrorism", and other points referring to Pakistan that he has raised in previous SCO meetings.

Mr. Sharif made no references to the Kashmir dispute in his speech, a departure from his own speech at the UN General Assembly on September 27, where he had likened India's actions in Kashmir to Israel's "colonial settler's project" in Palestine.

"I think there's a lot of positivity around the SCO in Islamabad. I think things have gone positively, and Mr. Jaishankar was received by Prime Minister [Sharif] at the events," Pakistani Information Minister Ataullah Tarar told *The Hindu*.

Omar takes oath as new Jammu and Kashmir CM

"I fulfilled the promise of giving representation to all the regions equally. We made Deputy Chief Minister from Jammu so that they will feel they are equally part of the government. There are three more ministries that will be filled soon. Our endeavour will be to walk together," Mr. Abdullah said.

Those who were sworn in as Ministers included Satish Sharma from Jammu's Chamb constituency, Sakina Yatoo from south Kashmir's D.H. Pora constituency, Javid Dar from north Kashmir's Rafiabad constituency, Mr. Choudhary from Jammu's Nowshera constituency and Javid Rana from Jammu's Mendhar constituency.

"The government will treat both the regions equally and will also end the suffering of people," NC president Farooq Abdullah said.

It is the second term of Mr. Omar Abdullah as Chief Minister after 2009. He has also earned the distinction of becoming the first Chief Minister of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, after the Centre ended the region's special status in 2019 and granted more powers to the Lieutenant-Governor.

'Many challenges'

"I was the last Chief Minister to serve a full six-year term. Now I will be the first Chief Minister of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. I am happy about the last distinction of serving six years. Being a Chief Minister of a Union Territory is a different matter altogether. It has its own challenges. I hope that the status of a union territory is a temporary one," Mr. Abdullah said, ahead of the swearing-in ceremony.

Mr. Abdullah took Guard of Honour at the Civil Secretariat in Srinagar and held his first meeting with top officials. The Chief Minister, in his first instructions, asked the Director-General of Police (DGP) not to create a "green corridor" or traffic halts during his road movements. "I have instructed him [the DGP] to minimise public inconvenience and the use of sirens is to be minimal. The use of any stick waving or aggressive gestures is to be totally avoided," Mr. Abdullah said, as he urged his fellow Cabinet Ministers to follow the same approach.

The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has just 10 ministerial berths, including the Chief Minister. None of the six Congress legislators took oath in spite of being a part of the coalition.

"None of the elected members took oath before the Lieutenant-Governor. It is a mark of our protest against Prime Minister Narendra Modi for not restoring statehood," Congress Legislature Party leader Ghulam Ahmad Mir said.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge reiterated the party stand that "statehood remains its first priority".

Several leaders of the INDIA bloc attended the swearing-in ceremony, who included top leadership of the Congress – Rahul Gandhi, Mr. Kharge and Priyanka Vadra. Besides, Samajwadi Party president and former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav, CPI(M) leader Prakash Karat and D. Raja were present. Members of Parliament Kanimozhi and Supriya Sule also attended the ceremony. Former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti and Member of Parliament Sheikh Rashid attended the function.

BJP leader Ravinder Raina, who congratulated Mr. Abdullah, said, "I hope the new government will work towards peace and progress. I am confident they will further strengthen peace and tranquillity of past 10 years."

Five Eyes supports Canada in spat with India on Nijjar

U.K. is the latest to declare its confidence in the judicial process by Ottawa, which is investigating the alleged involvement of Indian diplomats in the 2023 killing of a pro-Khalistan preacher

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The United Kingdom has "full confidence" in the Canadian judicial process, the Foreign Office in London declared on Wednesday, expanding the ambit of the unprecedented diplomatic crisis that has broken out between India and Canada over the alleged involvement of Canada-based Indian diplomats in the 2023 killing of pro-Khalistan preacher Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

U.K. is the fourth member of the 'Five Eye' countries to extend support to Canada's position. Earlier New Zealand, the United States and Australia had backed Canada.

"We are in contact with our Canadian partners about the serious developments outlined in the independent investigations in Canada. The U.K. has full confidence in Canada's judicial system. Respect for sovereignty and the rule of law is essential," said the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office in an official statement.

The Five Eye countries – Australia, Canada, New Zealand, U.S., and U.K. – often coordinate closely on issues of common security interest.

Tit-for-tat: India and Canada have both expelled diplomats from their missions in the row over the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar. PTI

The key pillar

The protection of political and civil rights, including the right to peaceful protest, is a key pillar of the Five Eye democracies. In the recent years, India has been uncomfortable with the campaign for so-called (online) referendum on Khalistan in all the five countries but India's arguments did not prevent the Five Eye countries to crackdown on the pro-Khalistan campaigners.

Earlier, New Zealand became first among the friends of Canada from within the Five Eye democracies to express support for the Canadian position expressing concern about the allegations from Canada.

"The alleged criminal conduct outlined publicly by Canadian law enforcement authorities, if proven, would be very concerning," said New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister Winston Peters in a social media statement on X on Tuesday.

Mr. Peters expressed support for the rule of law.

Diplomats expelled

Citing alleged involvement in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, Canada has expelled six Indian diplomats, including High Commissioner Sanjay Kumar Verma. In a tit-for-tat move, India too expelled six Canadian diplomats, including the head of mission Stewart Ross Wheeler. Both sides have given time till October 19 for the diplomats to exit.

Australia has also come forward to support Canada's allegations and urged for respect for sovereignty of nation states.

Spokesperson of the U.S. State Department Mathew Miller also said on Tuesday, "When it comes to the Canadian matter, we have made clear that the allegations are extremely serious, and they need to be taken seriously. We wanted to see the Government of India cooperate with Canada in its investigation. Obviously, they have not chosen that path."

The escalating crisis drew attention of the Indian National Congress that urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take Parliament into confidence. "Our nation's international image as a country that believes in and adheres to rule of law is at risk, and it is crucial that we act together to defend it," said Jairam Ramesh, general secretary in charge of communications, expressing concern about the crisis.

Did not want to blow up India-Canada ties, Trudeau tells panel

Varghese K. George
EDMONTON

Justin Trudeau

Conversations with India around the G-20 Summit in 2023 in New Delhi about the killing of Khalistani activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar were based on intelligence and not proof, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Wednesday told a federal commission that is examining foreign interference in the country.

Mr. Trudeau repeated the allegation that India was involved in the killing. He said the decision to go public on such a sensitive issue was taken to assure Canadians that the government was serious about their security. "We wanted the public to know that we were taking action..." he said.

The Canadian Prime Minister said it was a "massive mistake if India had done it", adding that his government had "reasons to believe that India did it".

There was no discussion on evidence in the hearing as the proceeding moved on to other topics.

Mr. Trudeau said Canada did not want to end up in the current state of tension with India. "My position and Canada's position is to defend the territorial integrity of India. 'One India' is our policy. There are a number of people in Canada who argue otherwise, but that does not make it our policy. It is also not something that is illegal in Canada," he said. He said India's response when the concerns were taken up with it was "to attack Canada, undermine our government and the integrity of our democracy".

The Canadian PM said the intelligence gathering on Nijjar killing was prompted by requests from South Asian Members of Parliament.

Upon gathering intelligence about India's alleged involvement, "our immediate response was to communicate with Indian security agencies... Our attempt was to ensure that India-Canada relations were not blown up. At the G-20 summit... we did not want to make it uncomfortable for India," Mr. Trudeau said, adding that he directly talked to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue.

Woman's body found in Krishnanagar town of West Bengal

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

The body of a young woman, with the face burnt, was found near the office of the Superintendent of Police in Krishnanagar town of Nadia district in West Bengal on Wednesday.

The family members of the victim, said to be a Class 12 student, alleged that she was raped and murdered by her partner and others, who also poured acid on the body. The police have arrested the partner and launched an investigation.

The body has been sent for a post-mortem examination.

Local people erupted in protests over the incident and raised questions about women's safety. Members of the Opposition Congress and the Left Front staged protests outside the Kotwali police station, demanding that the post-mortem examination be conducted in the presence of a magistrate.

Body in river

The body of another woman was found buried in the Kumari river bed in Purulia district on Wednesday. The police sent the body for a post-mortem examination at the Deben Mahata Government Medical College and Hospital in Purulia.

Condemning the incidents, BJP Lok Sabha member Sukanta Majumdar called for the resignation of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

Seven killed, 15 admitted to hospital in suspected liquor tragedy in Bihar

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Seven persons were killed and at least 15 have been admitted to hospital after consuming what is alleged to be spurious liquor in Siwan and Saran districts of Bihar, officials said on Wednesday. Bihar was declared a dry State in 2016.

Six persons were killed at Madhar village in Siwan district and one at Ibrahimpur Kaiya in Saran.

Several people have been hospitalised in Siwan. Three of them have been referred to hospitals in Patna. Many have complained of loss of vision.

Villagers said people had consumed liquor at an illegal shop at Madhar on Tuesday night.

After reaching home, they started vomiting and complained of stomach ache and loss of vision. They were taken to hospitals, where six died on Wednesday.

Families in distress: More than 150 people have died in hooch tragedies in Bihar since April 2016. FILE PHOTO

The deceased have been identified as Arvind Singh, 40; Ramendra Singh, 30; Santosh Mahto, 35; Munna, 32; Brij Mohan Singh, 38; and Mohan Shah, 28, all from Madhar village.

Some of those hospitalised are from Sarsaiya village, villagers said.

"We have received reports of death of some people at Madhar village. The cause of their death is yet to be ascertained, though a team of officials have been sent to the village to inquire," Siwan District Magistrate Mukul Kumar Gupta told presspersons.

The person killed in Saran district has been identified as Ismail Uddin. One person is undergoing treatment at the Primary Health Centre in Masrakh.

The Nitish Kumar government recently said that more than 150 people had died in hooch tragedies in the State since April 2016.

In December 2022, at least 73 were killed in Saran district. Mr. Kumar had earlier said that no compensation would be given to the family members of those killed in hooch tragedies.

Recently, Jan Suraaj Party founder Prashant Kishor had declared that if he came to power in the State, he would end prohibition "within an hour" to use the huge revenue generated to improve educational facilities in Bihar.

Togadia meets RSS chief, to work jointly to 'unite Hindus'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

For the first time in six years, since he left the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), firebrand right-wing leader Praveen Togadia met Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat on Sunday. The two have decided to work together to "unite Hindus".

An Ahmedabad-based cancer surgeon and a former Swayamsevak, Mr. Togadia had resigned from the post of the VHP's international president in 2018 after his relationship with the Sangh Parivar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi soured. He remained in the VHP for 35 years and was a key player in the Bharatiya Janata Party's rise in Gujarat.

Army to commemorate 62 years of the Battle of Walong with China

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

To mark the 62nd anniversary of the iconic Battle of Walong during the 1962 war with China, the Army is planning a month-long series of commemorative events beginning on Thursday. They will continue till November 14. In addition to a series of activities, the newly renovated Walong War Memorial, Shaurya Sthal at Lama Spur, and some key infrastructure projects in the border areas are also set to be inaugurated.

In 1962, the Indian Army halted the advancing People's Liberation Army soldiers for 27 days which forced them to commit their reserve Division from Tawang Sector to Walong as fierce battles unfolded in the unforgiving terrain of Kibithu, Namti Tri Junction (famously known as Tiger's Mouth), Walong, and adjoining features.

Last stand: The Walong War Memorial commemorating the iconic battle of 1962 in Arunachal Pradesh. DINAKAR PERI

In October 1962, as Chinese forces advanced into the eastern most parts of Arunachal Pradesh, the task of defending it fell on the 11 Infantry Brigade under the Second Infantry Division. The Brigade had 6 Kumaon regiment, 4 Sikh regiment, third battalion of 3 Gorkha Rifles, in addition to second battalion of 8 Gorkha Rifles and 4 Dogra.

The Chinese offensive with more than 4,000 soldiers could not breach the forward defences held with 800 men for over 27 days and the Chinese Army was subsequently forced to employ additional division size force of approximately 15,000 soldiers. Vastly outnumbered and with little ammunition and no resources, the Indian soldiers fought till the last man, last round. Capturing this, the *Time* magazine wrote in January 1963, "At Walong, Indian troops lacked everything. The only thing they did not lack was guts."

This year's commemoration promises a vibrant mix of activities aimed at engaging the local communities and honouring the memory of the fallen heroes, one Army official said. "The events include white water rafting, motorcycle rallies, bicycle rallies, battlefield treks, adventure treks and a half marathon, all designed to reflect the adventurous spirit of the Indian Army in the rugged terrain of Arunachal Pradesh."

Chopper with CEC makes emergency landing

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar on Wednesday remained stuck in a remote village in Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh after his helicopter made an emergency landing in bad weather.

The rescue teams could not reach the CEC even nine hours after his chopper landed at Ralam village, around 200 km from the district headquarters, around 1 p.m.

Mr. Kumar was accompanied by Additional Chief Election Officer of Uttarakhand Vijay Kumar Jogdand and security staff.

The CEC was going to Milan village to see the tough terrain and how elections were conducted in the area.

Union Cabinet approves 3% DA hike for Union govt. employees

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved an additional instalment of dearness allowance (DA) to Central government employees, and dearness relief (DR) to pensioners to compensate price rise. The decision comes days before Deepavali.

The increase will be effective from July 1, amounting to an increase of 3% over the existing rate of 50% of the basic pay/pension to adjust the cost of living and to protect erosion of the pay's real value.

"This increase is in accordance with the accepted formula, which is based on the recommendations of the 7th Central Pay Commission. The combined impact on the exchequer on account of both DA and DR would be ₹9,448.35 crore per annum," a statement from the government said.

This will benefit about 49.18 lakh Central government employees and 64.89 lakh pensioners, it added.

Second time

This the second time the two components have been revised this year, the first time was on January 1.

The increment is based on an increase in a 12-monthly average of All India Consumer Price Rise Index for Industrial Workers published by the Labour Bureau.

Announcing the decision, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, "The enhanced DA and DR will add to the pay cheque of Central government employees and pensioners." The Minister added, "I want to congratulate them as this comes ahead of the festival of Deepavali."

Omar gives Jammu its due, goes for balance between regions in Ministry

With the BJP's vote share higher than the NC's in a polarised verdict, new Chief Minister brings three Jammu faces to the Ministry, including two Hindus; next step may be to restore the annual move of the capital between Srinagar and Jammu

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah took over as the first Chief Minister of the five-year-old Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday against the backdrop of the monumental changes the region has witnessed since 2019.

Dropping his previous belligerence on the abrogation of Article 370, Mr. Abdullah has sought to tread the path of reconciliation, evident from the fact the new government's starting point has been to address the regional and religious divide in J&K.

The composition of the J&K Council of Ministers reflects a rare bid by the National Conference (NC) leadership to build a healthy relationship with the plains of Jammu, whose voters overwhelmingly opted for the BJP, helping the party to win 29 out of Jammu's 43 seats. The Ministry has 10 berths, including of the Chief Minister. Of the six who took oath on Wednesday, including Mr. Abdullah, three were from the Jammu region and three from the Kashmir region.

The CM picked two non-Muslim members and one prominent Muslim face from the Jammu region. Surinder Kumar Choudhary, the NC MLA for Nowshera in Jammu, was offered the post of Deputy Chief Minister. Another Hindu face is Satish Sharma. The third Minister is Javed Ahmad Rana.

The J&K election verdict fell along regional and religious lines, except for islands such as Inderwal, where a Hindu Independent candidate Payare Lal Sharma defeated a Muslim candidate Gulam Mohammad Saroori.

On the one hand, voters from the three valleys of J&K – Kashmir, Pir Panjal and Chenab – elected candidates from the NC, Peoples Democratic Party, Congress, Awami Ittehad Party, and J&K Peoples Conference, as well as Independents. On the other hand, the plains of Jammu, especially Samba, Kathua and Jammu districts, voted only for the BJP.

Mr. Abdullah may have laid the foundation of a government based on secular values, but there is a long way to go to bridge the gap between regions with divergent aspirations. The the annual shifting of the capital between Srinagar and Jammu could be the second step.

(From left) Jammu & Kashmir CM Omar Abdullah with Deputy CM Surinder Kumar Choudhary in Srinagar on Wednesday. IMRAN NISSAR

Modi, Rajnath congratulate CM, offer Centre's support

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday congratulated Omar Abdullah on taking over as Chief Minister of J&K and hinted at the Centre's support to the new dispensation.

"Congratulations to Shri Omar Abdullah Ji on taking oath as the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. The Centre will work closely with him and his team for J&K's progress," PM wrote on X.

Saini stakes claim to form govt. after BJP MLAs elect him

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

Nayab Singh Saini is all set to be the Chief Minister of Haryana for the second time after he was unanimously elected leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party Legislature Party at Panchkula on Wednesday.

Soon after his declaration as the legislature party leader, Mr. Saini met Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya here and staked claim to form the next government in the State. He handed over the list of legislators supporting the party. Mr. Saini will be sworn in on Thursday.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced that Mr. Saini was elected leader unanimously. "Today, the meeting of the BJP Legislature Party was held in which unanimously one proposal was received, placed by Krishan Bedi and Anil Vij, recommending the name of former Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini. I declare Nayab Singh Saini as elected leader of the BJP Legislature Party," Mr. Shah said.

Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatraya offers sweets to Nayab Singh Saini. ANI

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and Union Minister Manohar Lal were present.

The BJP successfully retained power in Haryana with a third straight win in the 2024 Assembly election by winning 48 seats in the 90-member Assembly.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Shah, and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh are expected to attend the oath-ceremony function in Panchkula.

Mahayuti releases 'report card', focuses on infra, aid to women

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

A day after Assembly elections in Maharashtra were announced by the Election Commission of India, the Mahayuti held a press conference on Wednesday enumerating its key work over the past two years.

A report card of the Mahayuti's work, with a special focus on infrastructure projects, welfare schemes such as Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana, irrigation projects and incentives for farmers, was released by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Deputy Chief Ministers Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar.

'Deport card'

But the Opposition hit out with senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh saying the government bore "the dubious distinction of having presided over the wholesale surrender of Maharashtra's interests". Shiv Sena UBT leader Aaditya Thackeray said the report card could be termed a "deport card", which showed how everything was being "deported to Gujarat".

On display: Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde and other Mahayuti alliance leaders holds the report card in Mumbai on Wednesday. ANI

Accusing the Opposition of spreading a "fake narrative", Mr. Pawar said the focus of the government was to reach out to all communities. "We have tried to give justice to each community. This report reflects the change we have brought in the lives of the people of Maharashtra," he said.

Mr. Fadnavis slammed the Opposition over allegations of a deterioration of the law and order situation. "Who is telling us about law and order? Those who were involved in scams are telling us about law and order," he said.

Adding that the Opposition was trying to create a fake narrative that the investments were being sent to Gujarat, he said, "52% of the country's investment comes to Maharashtra."

Mr. Fadnavis said farmers have benefited from several schemes, including solar pumps, free electricity, and irrigation projects, and added that the Vadhvan port "will change the dynamics of coastal trade."

Chief Minister Shinde targeted the MVA for stopping projects during its tenure. Enumerating the achievements of his government, he said, "We are number one in infrastructure. Atal Setu, coastal road, metro train, Samruddhi Highway, missing link project - there are so many projects that are being done on priority. MVA stopped work in its two-and-a-half years of tenure. We completed work with great speed. There was cost escalation of ₹17,000 crore because they stalled work."

But the Congress hit back. "The Mahayuti government bears the dubious distinction of having presided over the wholesale surrender of Maharashtra's interests. The Congress and the MVA do not believe in playing favorites - we believe in the equitable development of the entire country," Mr. Ramesh posted on X.

EC cracks down on divisive rhetoric as Maharashtra gears up for Assembly polls

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The term "vote jihad" has sparked controversy in Maharashtra as the State prepares for the Assembly election on November 20. With the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) in force, Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) S. Chockalingam warned that any use of inflammatory terms, including "vote jihad", would be scrutinised and dealt with strictly.

"We will not spare anyone using such terms. If we receive any complaints, we will act within the legal framework," Mr. Chockalingam said on Wednesday, stressing that the commission was committed to maintaining communal harmony throughout the election process.

> Will not spare anyone using such terms. If we receive any complaints, we will act within the legal framework
>
> **S. CHOCKALINGAM**
> Chief Electoral Officer

The term "vote jihad" recently gained attention after BJP leader and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis attributed the party's poor performance in certain constituencies in the Lok Sabha election to it.

Mr. Fadnavis, speaking at a public event in Kolhapur, said, "Out of 48 Lok Sabha constituencies, 14 seats witnessed 'vote jihad'. Hindutva needs to awaken if anti-Hindu leaders are being elected to top posts."

Meanwhile, voter registration in the western State has seen a significant boost. Mr. Chockalingam said the number of registered voters had increased by nearly 70 lakh since the 2019 Assembly election.

"There were 8,94,46,211 voters ahead of the 2019 Assembly election, and now, after special enrolment drives, the number has risen to 9,63,69,410," he said, citing a total increase of 69,23,199 voters.

SC accuses Haryana, Punjab of defiance in stubble-burning cases

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday slammed Haryana and Punjab for their "defiant attitude" against taking penal action on persons burning crop residue ahead of the winter season and aggravating air pollution across northern parts of India, especially in and around the land-locked national capital.

A three-judge Bench headed by Justice A.S. Oka expressed its shock at Haryana's submission that it could detect no fires despite information received from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) about their exact locations.

"ISRO tells you the locations, yet you say you could not find any fires? Why are you shy of prosecuting people? This is defiance on the part of Haryana, encouraging people to commit offences," Justice Oka addressed counsel for Haryana.

The court said there were 191 breaches, but people got off by paying a nominal amount as a fine. Penal action was not taken in even one case.

"These people will be happy to pay the nominal fine and continue to commit these offences," Justice Oka said.

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विस्तृत बोली आमंत्रण सूचना सं 02/2024-25
2 वर्ष की अवधि के लिए इस कार्यालय में कम्प्यूटर सिस्टम मय प्रशिक्षित कार्मिक (मशीन विथ मैन) उपलब्ध कराने हेतु विनिर्दिष्ट पंजीकृत बोलीदाता/ संवेदक जो कि राजस्थान अनुबंधित श्रमिक (नियम एवं उन्मूलन) अधिनियम 1970, कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि अधिनियम 1952, कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा अधिनियम 1948, वस्तु एवं सेवाकर (जीएसटी), आयकर (पैन नम्बर) एवं राजस्थान दुकान एवं वाणिज्यिक संस्थान एक्ट 1932 के अन्तर्गत या इंडियन पार्टनरशीप एक्ट 1956 के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत हो, से निम्नलिखित प्रकार से ई-बोली (तकनीकी-वाणिज्यिक/ वित्तीय/ प्राईस बिड) आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र. सं.	विवरण	अनुमानित राशि	बोली प्रतिभूति राशि (रुपए)	बोली प्रपत्र शुल्क राशि (रुपए)	ई-बोली प्रोसेसिंग फीस (रुपए)	ई-बोली दस्तावेज डाउनलोड की दिनांक एवं समय	ई-बोली दस्तावेज अपलोड की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	तकनीकी वाणिज्यिक बीड खोलने की तिथि व समय
1.	कम्प्यूटर (प्रशिक्षित) ऑपरेटर विथ मशीन	3.70 करोड़	7.40 लाख	2000	2000	01.10.2024 12.00 PM	21.10.2024 4:00 PM	22.10.2024 11:00 AM

1. ई-बोली आमंत्रण सूचना, विस्तृत आमंत्रण सूचना मय बोली दस्तावेज राजस्थान राज्य लोक उपापन पोर्टल http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in एवं http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in के माध्यम से निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय तक ऑनलाईन डाउनलोड/ अपलोड कर प्रस्तुत करने होंगे।
2. बोलीदाता एवं संवेदक को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर से (DSC) के माध्यम से वैबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर फर्म/ संस्था आदि को रजिस्टर्ड कराना आवश्यक होगा।
3. बोलीदाता/ संवेदक द्वारा निविदा शुल्क रुपए 2000/- (अक्षरे रुपए दो हजार मात्र) की डीडी/ बैंकर चैक Superintendent, Mahatma Gandhi Hospital. Jodhpur के नाम से (Payable at Jodhpur) हो, संलग्न करना जरूरी है।
4. बोलीदाता/ संवेदक द्वारा प्रोसेसिंग शुल्क रूपये 2000/- (अक्षरे रुपये दो हजार मात्र) की डी.डी./बैंकर चैक M.D. RISL, Jaipur के नाम से Paybale at Jaipur हो, संलग्न करना जरूरी है।
5. निर्धारित तिथि व समय तक वैब साइट पर अपलोडेड तकनीकी प्रस्ताव ही खोले जायेंगे। यदि किसी भी कारणवश उस दिन अवकाश रहता है तो उसके अगले कार्यदिवस को उसी समय तकनीकी प्रस्ताव निविदा खोली जायेगी।
6. तकनीकी बोली प्रस्तावों मे सफल बोलीदाता/ संवेदक के ही वित्तीय बोली प्रस्ताव खोले जायेंगे। जिसकी पृथक से सूचना कर दी जायेगी।
7. इस निविदा/ बोली से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत विवरण एवं अन्य जानकारी शर्तें आदि किसी भी कार्यालय कार्य दिवस/समय में तथा निम्न वैबसाइट https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in or https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखे/ डाउनलोड / अपलोड की जा सकती है।
8. निविदा बोली को स्वीकार/ अस्वीकार करने या बोली को निरस्त करने का उपापन समिति का अधिकार सुरक्षित रहेगा।
9. निविदा से सम्बन्धित नियम, शर्तें व अन्य आवश्यक विवरण राज्य लोक उपापन पोर्टल (http://sppp.raj.nic.in) व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखे जा सकते हैं। क्रम संख्या 01 में अंकित सेवाकार्य हेतु निविदाएं (तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय बिड) अलग-अलग प्रस्तुत की जावेगी।
10. निविदा ई-बोली में ही स्वीकार की जायेगी एवं वित्तीय बोली/ निर्धारित बी.ओ.क्यू. (B.O.Q.) में राशि का अंकन होने पर निविदा स्वीकार की जायेगी।
11. निविदा की प्री-बिड मिटिंग दिनांक 09.10.2024 को सुबह 12:00 बजे अधीक्षक महोदय के कक्ष में आयोजित की जायेगी।
12. ई-बोली प्रतिभूति राशि ई-बोली प्रपत्र शुल्क व ई-बोली प्रोसेसिंग की फीस का डिमांड ड्राफ्ट /बैंकर चैक इस कार्यालय की लेखा शाखा में भौतिक रूप से दिनांक 21.10.2024 कार्यालय समय 12:00 पी.एम. तक जमा कराना आवश्यक है।

अधीक्षक, संलग्न चिकित्सालय समूह, म.गाँ.चि. जोधपुर।
DIPR/C/9484/2024

INBRIEF

Fire in Mumbai multi-storey building leaves three dead

At least three people lost their lives after a fire broke out in a 14-storey residential building at Lokhandwala Complex in Mumbai's Andheri West on Wednesday morning. The fire started around 8 a.m. on the 10th floor of Riya Palace and the exact cause is yet to be ascertained, officials from the Mumbai Fire Brigade said. According to officials, the fire brigade managed to bring it under control by 8.58 a.m. However, three people were charred to death. They were rushed to Cooper Hospital, where they were declared brought dead. The deceased were identified as Chandraprakash Soni (74), Kanta Soni (74), and Pelubeta (42).

Cabinet approves rail and road bridge across Ganga

The Union Cabinet has approved construction of a rail-cum-road bridge across the Ganga in Varanasi at an estimated cost of ₹2,642 crore. The proposed multi-tracking project will ease operations, reduce congestion and provide infrastructure development on the busiest sections across Indian Railways, said an official release by the Union Railways. Apart from relief in congestion on the stretch, freight amounting to 27.83 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) is anticipated on the proposed stretch. The project traverses through Varanasi and Chandauli districts of Uttar Pradesh. The construction is estimated to be completed in four years.

Centre working to identify those behind bomb threats

Law enforcement agencies pursuing the case actively, says Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu; Canadian Air Force comes to the aid of Air India passengers diverted to remote airport

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Canada on Wednesday deployed a CC-330 aircraft of the Royal Canadian Air Force to fly over 200 passengers of an Air India Delhi-Chicago flight to their destination after a bomb threat forced it to divert to an airport in remote Iqaluit.

More flights in India received bomb threats on the third consecutive day, taking the total of such calls to at least 15, though most were declared hoaxes.

On the recent spate of bomb threats, Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu posted on X, "We are monitoring the situation. Our law enforcement agencies are pursuing the case actively."

The Minister held a meeting with officials of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, the Central Industrial Security Force, and the Home and Civil Aviation Ministries.

The Canadian military plane took off from the Iqaluit airport around midnight and reached Chicago at 7.50 a.m. The diversion meant that the passengers reached their destination over 36 hours after departing New Delhi at 3 a.m. on Tuesday.

"We thank the Canadian authorities and the authorities at Iqaluit airport for their support and assistance extended to the passengers and Air India during this unexpected disruption," a statement from Air India said.

At least six more flights received bomb threats on Wednesday. These included three IndiGo flights: 6E 651 Mumbai to Delhi, 6E 1011 Mumbai to Singapore, and 6E 74 from Riyadh to Mumbai.

Akasa Air's QP 1335 Delhi to Bengaluru, and two other SpiceJet flights too received similar threats. These were all declared hoax and the aircraft allowed for flight operations.

On Tuesday, six flights received bomb threats including Air India Express's Madurai to Singapore flight.

Usha Rangnani, the DCP of Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi, said that their team has responded to seven incidents involving bomb threats in October so far.

A detailed investigation is currently under way.

(With inputs from Samridhi Tewari)

An Indigo aircraft from Saudi Arabia after it made an emergency landing following a bomb threat at Jaipur airport on Tuesday. PTI

Flight bomb threat hoax: Chhattisgarh teen detained

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

A 17-year-old boy from Chhattisgarh was detained for allegedly posting bomb threat messages on the X handles of Indigo and Air India on Monday, the Bandra Police said on Wednesday.

After tracing the operator of the X handle, the Mumbai Police asked the boy's father to bring him to Mumbai for the bomb threat investigation.

He was presented before the Juvenile Justice Board, Dongri, and remanded till October 24.

Deputy Commissioner of Police, Zone 8, Maneesh Kalwaniya said, "*Prima facie*, the motive appears to be a financial dispute. The boy, who made threats under the fake ID, wanted to implicate another person, Fazluddin Nirban, with whom he had dispute over business."

NPPA increases ceiling prices of 8 scheduled drugs

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has approved an increase in the ceiling prices of 11 scheduled formulations of eight drugs by 50% of their current ceiling prices.

Most of these drugs are low-cost and generally used as first-line treatment crucial to the public health programmes of the country. These drugs are used for treatment of asthma, glaucoma, thalassemia, tuberculosis, mental health disorders, and so on.

Need for the revision

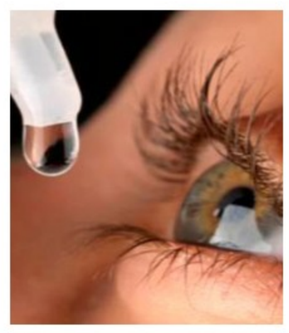
Elaborating on the need to bring in the increase in price, the authority said that this was done to ensure availability of essential drugs at affordable prices without jeopardising access to such medicines.

"The essential drugs must remain available to address the public health needs of the country, and their price regulation should not lead to a situation where these drugs become unavailable in the market," it added.

The NPPA explained that it has been receiving applications from the manufacturers for a revision of prices citing reasons such as increased cost of active pharmaceutical ingredients and cost of production, and change in exchange rate, resulting in unviability in sustainable production and marketing of drugs.

"Companies have also applied for discontinuation of some of the formulations on account of their unviability," the NPPA said.

Formulations for which ceiling prices have been revised include Atropine injection 0.6 mg/ml; Streptomycin powder for injection 750 mg and 1000 mg; Salbutamol tablet 2 mg and 4 mg and respirator solution 5 mg/ml; Pilocarpine 2% drops; Cefadroxil tablet 500 mg; Desferrioxamine 500 mg for injection; and Lithium tablets 300 mg.



These drugs include Cefadroxil, Pilocarpine, Atropine, and Streptomycin.

Need common civil law to end discrimination, says Venkaiah

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu said on Wednesday that the time was ripe for a "common civil code" that would have common laws across communities for marriage, divorce, and inheritance, and which would protect the rights of women.

Speaking at his Delhi residence, Mr. Naidu said rather than a "Uniform Civil Code," which stressed uniformity, the effort should be to find commonality across various personal laws.

"At 75 years, we are now a mature democracy that should debate the issue and arrive at a common view," he said.

"Common law should be against discrimination on the basis of religion," Mr. Naidu added.

Climate change impact harsher on poorer farmers in India: FAO report

A.M. Jigeesh
NEW DELHI

Poor households globally lose 5% of their total income in an average year from heat stress and 4.4% from floods compared with households that are relatively better off, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations said in a report on Wednesday, warning about the negative impacts of climate change on the farming population in India.

Senior FAO economist Nicholas Sitko presented the report "The unjust climate. Measuring the impacts of climate change on rural poor, women, and youth" in New Delhi.

The report said on-farm income sources of the rural poor in India were affected in different ways depending on the type of climate stress. In case of droughts or such events, poor households dedicated more time and resources to agricultural production to sustain themselves, as off-farm employment opportunities reduced.

The total incomes of poor households reduce compared with those of families that have not been exposed to a significant climate stressor, it said. "The vulnerability of poor households to climate stressors is likely to be rooted in structural inequalities," the report said and asked the government to take policy measures such as expanding the social security net.

Anticipatory social protection programmes can be scaled up and scaled out to more beneficiaries in anticipation of an extreme weather event, the report suggested. "Providing effective livelihood support ahead of extreme weather events can help reduce reliance on adverse coping strategies and limit the number of people pushed into poverty because of these events," it said. The report recommended improving workforce diversification and enhancing off-farm employment opportunities. It urged policymakers to address "gendered barriers" in non-farm employment.

Responding to the report, NITI Aayog member Ramesh Chand said India was doing its best to deal with the issue of climate change. "We have implemented National Innovations on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) much earlier to address the problem of climate change. We were first in the world to do so for all crops. We also have a contingency plan for all agriculture districts. We were the first country to implement an employment guarantee scheme as a social safety net," he said.

The vulnerability of poor households to climate stressors is likely to be rooted in structural inequalities, the report said. FILE PHOTO

Manufacture, marketing of antibiotics may be regulated; prescription to be mandatory

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) has recommended inclusion of all antibiotics in the definition of "new drug" in the New Drugs and Clinical Trial (NDCT) Rules, 2019.

The recommendation to the Drugs Consultative Committee (DCC) is aimed at curbing the growing antimicrobial resistance which is now recognised as a public health threat globally.

Implications of move

If brought into the new drug bracket, the manufacturing, marketing, and sale of antibiotics will be documented. Also, the manufacturing and marketing clearance will have to be obtained from the Union government instead of the State drug administration, and patients will be able to buy antibiotics only on prescription.

The board is also looking at amending the labeling requirements under the Drugs Rules, 1945, and adding a blue strip or box for antimicrobial products.

A recently released report by the Indian Council of Medical Research's Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Network said that drug-resistant and difficult-to-treat urinary tract infections, blood stream infections, pneumonia, and typhoid are among the diseases that are showing resistance to commonly used antibiotics in India.

"The problem of antimicrobial resistance has been highlighted as a global health priority in multiple high-level platforms and in view of this, it was proposed to include all antibiotics in the definition of "new drug" in New Drugs and Clinical Trial Rules, 2019," noted the minutes of the meeting. The DTAB added that antimicrobial resistance can be due to misuse of antibiotics, antivirals, antifungals, and so on, and recommended that the matter may be deliberated in the DCC.

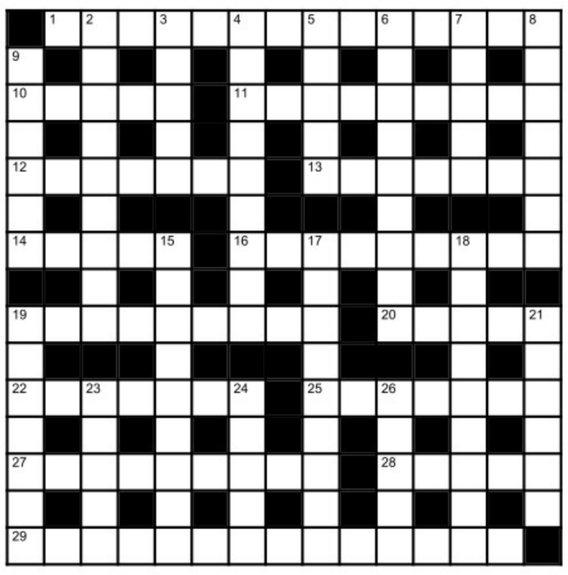
Antimicrobial resistance can be caused by indiscriminate use of antibiotics and antifungals.

TH CROSSWORD + 14307

(set by Pixie Dust)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Funny, these rulings about 'A & Y' accent (7,7)
10 Life partner made a threat essentially (5)
11 Boy! Frail independent worker without right to be masterly (9)
12 Church at odds over new sleeve badge (7)
13 Investigate old parking traditions (7)
14 Is this master in Lucknow spreading his bias? (5)
16 How a mount is seen as eccentric? (3,3,3)
19 Reverend's instructions to pull apart head of one who interprets visually (3,6)
20 Be out, soaking in bit of sunshine (5)
22 Perhaps South Africa's firm attempt to control Ugandan and Nigerian leaders (7)
25 Revolutionary member carries tipsy aide to get drink (7)
27 Can I blurt out something that makes surfaces smooth? (9)
28 Guru was confused, I'm confused! (5)
29 Let loose thus, large hospital rodent's beheaded in knacker's yard (14)

Down

2 Say, Millennium Falcon's special star shakes hips (9)
3 Lead drug dealer ignores policewoman at first (5)
4 Steal trendy scarf for outlaw (5,4)
5 Throw out timeless fabric (5)
6 Lapdog let out in metal coat (4-5)
7 So, gamine carries elevated mental concept of someone idolized (5)
8 Criminal hates going around to reach electric chair? (3,4)
9 Media Acts use limitless laws (6)
15 British Rani's basically worrying about Henry panting (9)
17 Hilarious, true ad about butt's thick membrane (4,5)
18 Pioneers of leading Irish drink overwhelmed by tests (9)
19 Look! Torn laces in spots (7)
21 Distressing time's something to be smoked over (6)
23 Darkest part of a shadow initially (understandably) makes beasts run away (5)
24 Fungus from unknown partner (5)
26 Dance institution's so neglected (5)

SUDOKU

	2		3			8		4
9								
			9	1	4		2	5
2				8	9			
		5				1		
			1	5				7
3	6		4	2	7			
								2
7		2			6		1	

No.SS6312 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	1	5	8	4	3	9	2	6
6	2	4	1	5	9	7	3	8
9	3	8	2	6	7	4	1	5
1	4	7	9	3	6	5	8	2
2	8	9	7	1	5	3	6	4
3	5	6	4	2	8	1	9	7
5	7	1	6	9	2	8	4	3
8	9	2	3	7	4	6	5	1
4	6	3	5	8	1	2	7	9

FAITH

Valmiki's staunch faith

Leading an ascetic life and yet be clued into frailties that is the bane of a *grihasta* is the hallmark of a great sanyasi. Valmiki was one such, whose epic Ramayana minutely captures every emotion that an ordinary man experiences, when faced with challenges. The 'birth' of Valmiki the sage is an interesting one and ordained only for those who attain self realisation, said S. Perundevi in a discourse.

In his purvasrama, Valmiki was a voracious hunter. Once, when the saptarishis came upon him during hunting, they pointed out that indiscriminate killing is a sin, one that is very hard to expiate. When the hunter retorted that he was pursuing his profession in ordinary to feed his family, the rishis suggested he ascertain from the family members if they were ready to share the burden of his sinful acts. When his parents, spouse, siblings and others in the extended family not only refused but also held him responsible for feeding them well, he turned philosophical and sought answers. He again asked the saptarishis to help him and they advised him to recite the Rama nama with faith to get enlightened.

The hunter was unable to pronounce the syllables and hence they pointed to a nearby tree and asked him to chant its name. When he did it repeatedly, and with full belief in a higher power, the syllables coalesced into Rama namam. He remained in deep meditation and an anthill grew around him. When the rishis returned to the forest and heard the deep chant, they removed the *valmikam* (anthill) and from it emerged the fully realised soul, now named Valmiki. His faith brought untold benefits, including Saraswati *kadaksham* and the felicity to pen epics.

INBRIEF

L&T Technology Services Q2 net profit rises 4.6%

L&T Technology Services Ltd.'s consolidated net profit increased 4.6% to ₹291 crore in the second quarter of FY25 from ₹278 crore in the year-earlier period, the company said in a regulatory filing. Revenue from operations increased 7.8% to ₹2,573 crore from ₹2,386.5 crore in the same period of the previous year. The board of directors had declared an interim dividend of ₹17 a share, the Vadodara-based technology firm said in its financial statement.

Sale proceeds available to FPIs on settlement day: SEBI

To boost operational efficiency for foreign portfolio investors (FPIs), SEBI on Wednesday introduced measures to speed up the availability of sale proceeds for such investors, bringing them on a par with domestic institutional investors. It is broadly estimated that efficiency gains on account of this measure would be about ₹2,000 crore per annum. FPIs had reported delays in accessing sale proceeds beyond the 'T+1' (trading plus one) settlement date. PTI

ABSL AMC to raise $300 mn from offshore investors

Aditya Birla Sun Life (ABSL) Asset Management Company aims to raise $300 million private credit fund from overseas investors keen to benefit out of the return possibilities that India offers, said A. Balasubramanian, its MD and chief executive. As part of its efforts to expand in the alternatives space, ABSL AMC has also launched a private credit fund under which it aims to raise ₹2,500 crore from domestic investors and deliver over 15% returns, he added. PTI

September trade gap eases, oil exports hit 32-month low

Import bill receded 14% from August's record high, in tandem with gold imports waning from a $10.1 billion peak to touch $4.4 billion last month; export tally inched up 0.5% in September

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

India's goods trade deficit narrowed sharply in September to a five-month low of $20.78 billion, relative to August's $29.70 billion figure – the second highest on record – with imports declining $9 billion from an all-time high of $64.4 billion in the previous month.

The value of outbound goods shipments rose 0.5% in September to $34.6 billion, breaking a two-month streak of year-on-year contractions in merchandise exports.

However, this tally was 0.4% below August's tally. Just six of India's top 30 export items recorded a contraction in September, but outbound petroleum products' shipments from India continued to plummet sharply, declining almost 27% to a little over $4.7 billion, the lowest in 32 months for India's second largest export product.

Petroleum imports fell about 10.4% to $12.5 billion last month. The import bill grew 1.6% to $55.36 billion over last September, but was 14% below the previous month's surprise spike that was fuelled by an all-time peak for gold imports which hit $10.1 billion. By contrast, September's gold import bill was significantly lower at $4.4 billion, reflecting a 6.9% rise year-on-year.

Silver imports, however, continued to surge, and were up over 205% at $325.7 million in September. In the first half of 2024-25, silver imports have grown 376.4% to almost $2.3 billion, while gold imports have risen 21.8% to around $27.1 billion.

The narrowing in the trade deficit from August levels was driven almost entirely by the fall in gold imports, Barclays Research analysts Shreya Sodhani and Amruta Ghare pointed out in a research note.

Between April and September, goods exports have now risen 1% to $213.2 billion, while imports have grown 6.16% to $350.7 billion. "The sluggish growth in exports in the year so far is partly explained by weak demand from major trading partners, and lower commodity prices for select major exports. The latest data available up till August showed exports declined year on year, across the EU, U.S., China and the UAE," averred Ms. Sodhani and Ms. Ghare.

Exporters were sanguine about the minor rebound of sorts in September but called upon the government to ease liquidity concerns and expand existing schemes for them.

"The urgent and immediate need of the hour is to take steps on the liquidity front with deeper interest subvention support and extension of interest equalisation scheme for at least 5 years, creating a predictable business environment for the exporters," said Ashwani Kumar, president of the Federation of Indian Exporters' Organisations.

Apart from extending the Remission of Taxes and Duties on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme to all sectors as was the case before the pandemic, Mr. Kumar sought an immediate restoration of the Interest Equalisation Scheme with a cap of ₹10 crore for all Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) for all 410 tariff lines.

Trade blues: Between April and September 2024, goods exports have risen 1% to $213.2 billion; imports are up 6.16%. FILE PHOTO

'Export competitiveness won't come from subsidies'

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Wednesday asked the industry to focus on making high quality products to tap global markets as export competitiveness will not come from government subsidies or support.

He also said that the government is making an effort to nudge industry to get into manufacturing high quality products as it is a "tough" task to get industry to accept that they should be making quality goods. "If we are looking at self-reliant India, it can only happen when India will be self-confident and that confidence will only come when we all decide that quality is not our job, it is our duty," he said. PTI

Piyush Goyal

Power units using foreign coal to run at 100% till Dec.

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Power Ministry has asked all thermal plants using imported coal to operate at full capacity for another two-and-a-half months till December 31 to avoid electricity shortage amid rising demand.

"In view of the power demand scenario, it has been decided to extend the time period for the Section 11 directive to generating companies having Imported coal-based plants till 31.12.2024," the Power Ministry said in a missive to 15 firms running such plants.

'By 2035, ACs in India to use more power than Mexico'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Over the next decade, India will add over 12,000 cars a day, expand built space equivalent to the built space in South Africa, and its air-conditioners will consume more electricity than the entire power consumption in Mexico, the International Energy Agency (IEA) noted in a report on Wednesday.

India is likely to see a rise in demand for all forms of energy through 2035, making it the growth engine for global energy demand, the IEA said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,501	-0.39
US Dollar	84.02	0.02
Gold	78,900	0.31
Brent oil	74.29	0.91

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3085.90	-18.80
Adani Ports	1403.80	-16.50
Apollo Hosp	7071.30	-68.85
Asian Paints	3082.10	15.00
Axis Bank	1153.20	-0.65
Bajaj Auto	11616.95	95.45
Bajaj Finserv	1862.05	8.10
Bajaj Finance	6956.35	-60.55
Bharat Elec	285.70	-3.15
Bharti Airtel	1733.95	16.70
BPCL	350.75	2.00
Britannia Ind	6090.10	21.40
Cipla	1562.20	-9.55
Coal India	495.75	1.30
Dr Reddys Lab	6710.90	99.25
Eicher Motors	4678.25	-43.85
Grasim Ind	2764.10	28.30
HCL Tech	1865.25	-4.85
HDFC Bank	1699.80	15.70
HDFC Life	726.80	12.55
Hero MotoCorp	5398.20	-107.45
Hindalco	733.10	6.15
Hind Unilever	2781.25	-0.20
ICICI Bank	1243.15	-12.35
IndusInd Bank	1346.30	-14.60
Infosys	1920.10	-39.20
ITC	493.20	-5.35
JSW Steel	989.35	-11.50
Kotak Bank	1876.35	-18.85
L&T	3532.60	-19.30
M&M	3068.00	-87.80
Maruti Suzuki	12383.90	-62.85
NestleIndia	2462.25	-22.00
NTPC	424.25	-2.35
ONGC	285.40	1.70
PowerGrid Corp	327.20	-2.65
Reliance Ind	2708.15	20.10
SBI Life	1733.75	10.00
State Bank	805.45	0.80
Shriram Finance Ltd.	3390.40	-10.75
Sun Pharma	1898.50	0.05
TataConsumerProduct	1113.95	-1.30
Tata Motors	907.45	-9.85
Tata Steel	155.24	-0.39
TCS	4094.95	-21.85
Tech Mahindra	1660.30	-15.05
Titan	3471.00	-37.50
Trent Ltd.	7805.80	-318.45
UltraTech Cement	11322.30	-94.60
Wipro	532.15	-0.80

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on October 16

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.80	84.12
Euro	91.27	91.62
British Pound	109.07	109.49
Japanese Yen (100)	56.10	56.31
Chinese Yuan	11.78	11.83
Swiss Franc	97.16	97.54
Singapore Dollar	63.97	64.23
Canadian Dollar	60.77	61.02
Malaysian Ringitt	19.49	19.61

Source:Indian Bank

Bajaj Auto net profit climbs 9% to ₹2,005 crore in Q2

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Bajaj Auto reported a 9% growth in its standalone net profit at ₹2,005 crore in the second quarter. Revenue from operations increased 22% to ₹13,247 crore on account of record highs in vehicle and spare-part sales, the firm said.

During the quarter, the company made an additional ₹211-crore provision for one-time deferred tax impact on investment income following changes in the Finance Act, 2024.

The green energy portfolio 'reached new milestones' with 1,00,000 units sold in September and while sales of electric vehicles stood at 1,00,000.

"Electric and CNG vehicles now contribute 40% of the total domestic revenue, highlighting the strategic shift towards sustainable mobility," the company said in a filing.

Domestic business achieved 'highest' revenue and 'tenth consecutive quarter of double-digit growth'. The growth was driven by double-digit gains in both motorcycles and commercial vehicles, with a near tripling of electric scooters, it said.

Export revenue rose in double digits, helped by better U.S. dollar/rupee realisation, richer mix, and a record quarter in Latin America. The Pulsar brand of motorcycles continued to gain traction with more than 1,10,000 units sold. Commercial vehicles set new record with 1.4 lakh units being sold.

Bajaj Auto said strong cash generation continued, adding ₹2,000 crore in free cash flow during the quarter. Balance sheet remained robust with surplus cash of ₹16,392 crore after investments of ₹1,200 crore in strategic growth initiatives and distribution of ₹2,233 crore as dividends in H1FY25.

'Specialty concrete to be a key driver for construction sector'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Ready-mix concrete penetration is expected to rise to 30% from 25%

Climate change is compelling the construction industry to adopt sustainable materials faster, and eco-friendly specialty concrete is emerging as a key driver in the sector, according to industry officials.

"Rapid urbanisation demands smarter, more sustainable infrastructure, while climate change compels us to build responsibly by reducing carbon footprint and enhancing the durability of structures," said Jay Morzaria, chairman, NAREDCO NextGen and committee member, NAREDCO Maharashtra.

"Specialty concrete is emerging as a key driver in construction industry, with alternate concrete leading the way in innovation and volumes. The penetration of ready-mix concrete (RMC) stands at 25% but we expect it to hit 30%, and are pioneering 3D concrete technology for which we hold a patent," said Debabrata Chakraborty, head of the RMC business at UltraTech Cement.

Solar panel firm Waaree's ₹4,300-cr. IPO opens Oct. 21

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Solar panel maker Waaree Energies Ltd.'s ₹4,300 crore initial public offering (IPO) will open on October 21 at a price band of ₹1,427 and ₹1,503 per share.

The IPO will open for subscription between October 21 and October 23. It comprises fresh issue of ₹3,600 crore and 48 lakh equity shares offered for sale. The proceeds will be used for building a 6GW ingot wafer, solar cell and solar PV module unit in Odisha. Higher dependence on imported inputs, among others, is a risk, as per the firm's prospectus.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
VILLUPURAM HIGHWAYS, (Construction & Maintenance) CIRCLE
TENDER NOTICE
T.N.NO. 44/2024-25 / HDO. DATED : 14.10.2024

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Schedule tender through online under Two Cover System** will be received upto **20.11.2024, 15.00** hours by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Villupuram Circle for CRIDP 2024-25 One work for Villupuram (H) C&M Division (VPM-091).

Detail of work, approximate value of work, EMD (EMD through online payment Gateway of the Portal only) availability of tender document and all other details are available from **19.10.2024** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in**. If any Changes / Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only

DIPR/ 4283 /TENDER/2024
Superintending Engineer (H), C&M Circle, Villupuram

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
VILLUPURAM HIGHWAYS, (Construction & Maintenance) CIRCLE
TENDER NOTICE
T.N.NO. 45/2024-25 / HDO. DATED : 15.10.2024

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Percentage tender through online under Two Cover System** will be received upto **20.11.2024, 15.00** hours by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Villupuram Circle for CRIDP 2024-25 One work for Perambalur (H) C&M Division (VPM-092).

Detail of work, approximate value of work, EMD (EMD through online payment Gateway of the Portal only) availability of tender document and all other details are available from **19.10.2024** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in**. If any Changes / Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only

DIPR/ 4282 /TENDER/2024
Superintending Engineer (H), C&M Circle, Villupuram

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer (Project) PHED, Churu
E-mail-ace.chu.phed@rajasthan.gov.in
No.1013-1055 Date: 10-10-2024
Corrigendum No.02 For this office NIT No. 02/2024-25
Corrigendum No.02 for this office NIT No. 02/2024-25 (UBN is : PHE2425WLOB04415 & Tender ID 2024_PHCJ_417266_1) may be visited on the procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.
SAVE WATER - SAVE LIFE
(Rammurti)
Add. Chief Engineer(P)
DIPR/C/9877/2024 **PHED,Project Region Churu**

RAJASTHAN STATE HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY, JAIPUR
No. F.7(637)/SHA/PPP/2021-22/D-1114 Date: 04/10/2024
NIT No.26/2024-25
INVITATION OF BIDS FOR SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT ENGINEER

Rajasthan State Highways Authority invites Bids for Independent Engineer services during Operation and Maintenance of Kanwas-Khanpur-Aklera section of SH-74, Deoli-Kanwas section of SH-74A, Alot (MP)-Gangdhar-Suwansara (MP) section of SH-19C and Kherli-Pahari section of SH-22 Total length 175.36 Km under Design, Build, Operate/Maintain and transfer on Annuity mode (RSHIP-I, Package-1) in the State of Rajasthan from interested bidders upto 11:00 AM on 24.10.2024.

The RFP document and other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state. The Estimated Consultancy Cost is Rs. 2,13,11,800/-.

Any further amendments to the RFP document shall only be made available on above websites as such prospective Bidders are advised to visit the above websites for the same.

UBN No: PWD2425SLOB07435
(Arif Mohammad Khan)
Member (Technical), RSHA, Jaipur
DIPR/C/9665/2024

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वृत, सिरोही
क्रमांक :- एकाउंट / निविदा / 2024-25 / 2161 दिनांक : 09.10.2024
निविदा सूचना संख्या - 05/2024-25
NIB Code - PWD2425A2072
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से वर्षा से क्षतिग्रस्त पुलियाओं/ सड़कों की स्थाई मरम्मत/ जीर्णोद्धार कार्य के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी के सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार / केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों / केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/डाक एवं दूरसंचार विभाग / रेल्वे इत्यादित में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से कार्यों हेतु - टेण्डरिंग के माध्यम से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में प्राप्त की जावेगी।

ऑनलाईन निविदा आवेदन डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की तारीख	14 अक्टूबर 2024 प्रातः 9:30 बजे से 05 नवम्बर 2024 सायं 6:00 बजे तक

निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेबसाईट www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट पर http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर्ड करवाना आवश्यक है। कार्यवार यू.बी.एन. संख्या निम्नानुसार हैं।
1. PWD2425WSOB07591, 2. PWD2425WSOB07592
3. PWD2425WSOB07593, 4. PWD2425WSOB07596
(एस.एम. वर्मा) अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
DIPR/C/9853/24 **सा.नि.वि. वृत सिरोही**

NSE
Soch kar
Samajh kar
Invest kar

INVESTING UNDER INFLUENCE?

Letting influencers dictate your investment decisions is a serious mistake.

Don't follow stock tips, advice, or tall promises, as this may lead to major financial losses.
Smart investors always do their own research before investing.
Report such practices to us on **Feedbk_invg@nse.co.in** or **call us on 1800 266 0050**
Visit: www.nseindia.com/invest/be-a-smart-investor
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nseindia.com or scan the QR code.

YANGON

Myanmar junta chief Min Aung Hlaing to visit China next month

AP

Myanmar junta chief Min Aung Hlaing will travel to China next month, two sources close to the military said, in what would be his first known trip there since he led a coup in 2021. Beijing is a major ally and arms supplier of the internationally isolated junta that is battling opponents across the country following its coup. AFP

ROME

Italy extends surrogacy ban to couples seeking it abroad

AP

Italian lawmakers on Wednesday passed into law a Bill to extend the country's ban on surrogacy to couples who seek it abroad, despite warnings the move would damage children's rights. The Bill, adopted by the Senate, makes Italians who seek surrogacy in other countries liable for prosecution on their return home. AFP

MAJIYA

More than 140 killed following a fuel tanker explosion in Nigeria

AP

A fuel tanker explosion in northern Nigeria has killed more than 140 people, a spokesman for the national emergency agency said on Wednesday. Victims were burnt to death on Tuesday trying to collect fuel that had spilled from the crashed vehicle in the town of Majia in Jigawa State. The toll was likely to increase. AFP

SHENGJIN

First migrants arrive in Albania under contested deal with Italy

AP

A ship carrying migrants intercepted in Italian waters docked in Albania on Wednesday, nearly a year after Rome and Tirana reached a controversial deal to process asylum seekers trying to reach Europe. Sixteen men from Bangladesh and Egypt disembarked from an Italian navy vessel at the Shengjin port. AFP

25 killed, including a Mayor, in Israeli strikes in Lebanon

Lebanon's Prime Minister Najib Mikati accused Israel of 'intentionally targeting' a municipal council meeting to discuss relief efforts in Nabatiyeh, where six persons were killed and 43 injured

Associated Press
QANA

Tall cost: Smoke rises following Israeli air strikes on Dahiyeh in Beirut's southern suburbs in Lebanon on Wednesday. AP

Israeli air strikes pounded areas across Lebanon, killing at least 25 people, officials said on Wednesday, including more than a dozen in a southern town where Israeli bombardments in previous conflicts are seared into local memory.

Elsewhere in the south, a city's Mayor was among the dead in a strike that Lebanese officials said targeted a meeting coordinating relief efforts. The Israeli military said they were targeting a Hezbollah commander in the strikes late Tuesday on the southern town of Qana, where 15 people were killed.

In 1996, Israeli artillery shelling on a UN compound housing hundreds of displaced people in Qana killed at least 100 civilians and wounded scores more people.

Lebanon's Prime Minister, Najib Mikati, meanwhile accused Israel of "intentionally targeting" a municipal council meeting to discuss relief efforts in Nabatiyeh, where six persons were killed. "What solution can be hoped for in light of this reality?" he asked in a statement.

In Nabatiyeh, more than half a dozen strikes hit the city and surrounding areas, according to Lebanon's Health Ministry, which said at least six persons were killed and 43 wounded, with rescue efforts still underway. The city's Mayor, Ahmad Kahil, was among those killed, provincial Governor Huwaida Turk said.

Mr. Mikati said the international community has been "deliberately silent" about Israeli strikes.

Donald Trump avoids committing to peaceful acceptance of poll results

Sriram Lakshman
WASHINGTON DC

With under three weeks to go for the general election, former U.S. President Donald Trump, on Tuesday, sidestepped the question of whether he would peacefully accept the results. In an interview with *Bloomberg*'s John Micklethwait at the Economic Club of Chicago – in which he largely commandeered the topics – Mr. Trump declined to say if he had been in contact with Russian President Vladimir Putin since he left the Oval Office. The former President said India was tough in terms of international trade. He also said the U.S. press needed to be "straightened out", emphasised import tariffs as his economic policy of choice and said he would welcome legal immigrants.

Donald Trump

"Well, you had a peaceful transfer of power," Mr. Trump said, when asked, in the context of the January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol, if he would encourage a peaceful transfer of power after the November 5 election.

When pressed by Mr. Micklethwait, who said the transfer was the peaceful "compared to Venezuela", Mr. Trump said he had considered whether or not to sit for the *Bloomberg* interview because he thought Mr. Micklethwait had been a critic of his.

"We had a term 'peacefully and patriotically'," Mr. Trump said, referring to a phrase he used when telling his supporters to march to the U.S. Capitol.

Mr. Trump also circumvented a question on whether he had been in touch with Mr. Putin since he left the White house in 2021.

"I don't comment on that, but I will tell you that if I did, it's a smart thing," Mr. Trump said.

Questioned about China recently simulating a naval blockade of Taiwan, and whether he, as President, would send troops to defend Taiwan if China invaded it, Mr Trump said, "Look they are doing it [the naval exercise] now, because they are not going to do it afterwards."

The former President, who had once referred to India as 'the Tariff King' spoke at length about how he would use tariffs if elected.

"To me, the most beautiful word in the dictionary is tariff, and it's my favourite word." He suggested he would even implement 2,000% tariffs, citing an example of the car industry.

On trade, he mentioned India, among other countries, as being " tough".

"For instance, India is a very tough country. It's not only China. China is, is the, I would say, probably the toughest," Mr. Trump said.

"But there are a lot of tough you know, it's very tough. European Union ...They treat us so badly, we have a deficit," he said.

Iran warns of 'decisive' response if Israel strikes

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Iran Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has warned UN chief Antonio Guterres that Tehran is ready for a "decisive and regretful" response if Israel attacks his country in retaliation for a missile attack.

The Islamic republic fired about 200 missiles at Israel on October 1 in revenge for the killing of two of its closest allies, Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh and Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, as well as an Iranian general.

During the call on Tuesday, Mr. Araghchi also appealed to the UN to use its resources "to stop the crimes and aggressions of the Israeli regime and to send humanitarian aid to Lebanon and Gaza".

Xi visits Taiwan-facing province after military drills

Associated Press
TAIPEI

China's President Xi Jinping made a rare visit to a province facing Taiwan following military exercises that simulated a blockade of the self-governing island democracy that Beijing claims as its own territory and threatens to annex by force.

Mr. Xi did not comment on the military exercises during his visit to Fujian province, but his visit came on the heels of China's large-scale military exercises surrounding Taiwan on Monday.

Saudi Arabia cartoonist gets 23-year jail sentence

Agence France-Presse
DUBAI

A Saudi artist has been sentenced to more than two decades in prison over political cartoons that allegedly insulted the Gulf kingdom's leadership, his sister and a rights group said this week.

Mohammed al-Hazza, 48-year-old and father of five, was arrested in February 2018 in Saudi Arabia during "a violent raid" in which security forces entered his home and ransacked his studio, the London-based Sanad Human Rights Organisation said.

Pakistan college denies rape that sparked protests

Agence France-Presse
LAHORE

Senior directors of a Pakistan college said on Wednesday there was no evidence that a student had been raped on campus after reports that spread online sparked protests.

Hundreds of students have protested since Monday in response to social media posts that said a woman was raped in the basement of a Punjab College for Women campus in Lahore.

The demonstrators, who were mostly male students, smashed windows and burned school buses. The protests reflect growing concern over safety, harassment and sexual violence in Pakistan.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Dasarahalli Zone , Hesaragatta Main Road, MEI Layout, Bagalagunte, Bengaluru-73
No: SADH/DZ/TENDER/PR/54/2024-25 Dated: 16.10.2024
CORRIGENDUM OF TENDER NOTIFICATION
Sub: Regarding publishing the Tender Corrigendum
Ref: This Office Tender Notification No: SADH/DZ/TENDER /PR/54/2024-25, Dated: 14.10.2024
With reference to the above subject, the tender was invited by the Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture for the development work of Parks in the Jurisdiction of Dasarahalli Zone, in the said tender, name of the work, amount & tender notification dates are changed. Hence, the referred tender notification dated 14.10.2024 is cancelled and Re-Notification is published on 16.10.2024.
Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture Dasarahalli Zone, BBMP

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Rajarajeshwari Nagara Zone, RHCS Layout, Annapurneshwari Nagara, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru-560 072.
No. SADH/RRN/TENDER/PR/10/2024-25 Date: 16.10.2024
Invitation for Tender (IFT)
(Two Cover System) Through GOK KPP Portal only
https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Rajajeshwari Nagara Zone), (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department for Maintenance of Parks.

Sl. No.	Name of the work
1.	Beautification, Landscape Development, Water Facility and other Civil Works in Yeshwanthpura Constituency Parks. **Amount (in ₹) : 1,50,00,0000/-, EMD (in ₹) : 2,25,000/-.**
2.	Beautification, Landscape Development, Water Facility and other Civil Works in Yeshwanthpura Constituency Parks. **Amount (in ₹) : 1,00,00,000/-, EMD (in ₹) : 2,00,000/-.**

Calendar of Events: (1) Date of Notification: **18.10.2024. (2)** Tender can be downloaded from: **23.10.2024. (3)** Pre bid meeting : **28.10.2024. (4)** Tender Closing Date: **30.10.2024. (5)** Technical bid opening Date : **31.10.2024. (6)** Financial bid opening Date: **After approval of Technical bid. (7)** This tender notice can also be seen on the BBMP **website: www.bbmp.gov.in.**
Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Rajarajeshwari Nagara Zone, BBMP.

No: SHA/1041/2024-MGR (HR) - Part (5) Dated: 15.10.2024
STATE HEALTH AGENCY (SHA)
(Under Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Kerala)
5th and 8th Floor, Artech Meenakshi Plaza,
Opposite Government Women and Children's Hospital Thycaud P.O., Thiruvananthapuram, 695 014, Phone: 0471 - 4063121
website: www.sha.kerala.gov.in
Recruitment for the post of
DATA ANALYST
(PG or UG in Statistics / Mathematics & Computing / Commerce with statistics, with relevant experience.)
On contract basis under State Health Agency, Thiruvananthapuram.
Last date of application on **28.10.2024**.
For more details log on to **www.sha.kerala.gov.in**. Applicants are requested to carefully read the full notification before applying.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Dasarahalli Zone, Hesaraghatta Main Road, MEI Layout, Bagalagunte, Bengaluru - 560073
No. SADH/DZ/TENDER/54/2024-25 Dated: 16-10-2024
LETTER OF INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(SHORT TERM) (TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Through GOK – KPPP only) (Rates Excluding GST)
The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Dasarahalli) (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person / Agencies / Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents).

Sl.	Name of the Work
1	Beautification, landscape development, water facility and other civil works in Dasarahalli Assembly Constituency parks. **Amount put to Tender** (Excluding GST) Rs.1,34,87,980/- **EMD Amount** : Rs.2,02,320/-

(1) Date of Notification : **16-10-2024**. (2) Tender can be downloaded from KPPP website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in : 21-10-2024 (3)** Pre-bid Meeting : **23-10-2024 at 11.00 AM (4)** Tender Closing Date : **28-10-2024 at 5.00 PM (5)** Technical bid opening date: **29-10-2024 at 11.00 AM (6)** Financial bid opening date : After approval of Technical bid.
Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, BBMP

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, RRN Division-Lakes, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002.
No:EE/RRN/TEND/03/2024-25 Date: 16.10.2024
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) (Two Cover System)
(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)
The Executive Engineer, RRN Div-Lakes, Room No.308, 3rd Floor, Annexure-03 N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002 BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers on Turnkey, Lump Sum, Fixed Price, No Variation and No Escalation basis for the construction work detailed in the table below.

Sl No.	Name of the work
1.	Providing Diversion Pipeline and Other Allied Works at Handralli Lake. **Cost of Work Proposed : ₹.199.50 Lakhs (Including GST) EMD: ₹.3.00 Lakhs**

Calendar of Events : (1) Available of Tender Documents in kpp portal on **19.10.2024** onwards. (2) Last date of Receipt of Queries is **30.10.2024** upto **1:00** pm. (3) Date of Pre-Bid meeting on **30.10.2024** upto **4:00** pm. (4) Last date of Submission of Tenders on **04.11.2024** upto **4:00** pm. (5) Date of Opening of Technical Bid on **05.11.2024** upto **4:15** pm. (6) Date of Opening of Financial Bid will be intimated to Qualified Tenders.
Sd/- Executive Engineer RRN Division-Lakes

PUBLIC NOTICE
The general public are hereby notified that my client Sri NISHA DEVI, aged about 44 years, W/o. Pawan Kumar Singh, residing at No. 103, Surya Heights, Gayathri Nagar, Borabanda Ameerpet, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh-500018 (Aadhaar No. 5831 9954 6258) have lost Sale deed Document No/ Identification: DNH-1-11309-2021-22, registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Devanhalli during shifting the house the above said Original Sale Deed has been lost.
in this regard a lost report was lodged complaint to the Police (Lost Report No. 1273596/2024 dt. 05.10.2024).
If any person/s finds the said documents kindly inform the above stated person or address mentioned below. If any person/s misuses the said document, the same is not binding on my client and they shall do so at their own risk.
C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 8660553368
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that we are investigating the ownership right, title and interest of **Mr. P. PRAVEEN KUMAR** Aged about 49 years, S/o. Late. P. N. VAJRAVELU REDDY, Presently Residing at: No. 1653, Tilted Cypress P1, Wesley Chapel, Fl – 33544 USA. Permentantly having address at, #22-275/6, Advocates Colony, Kattmachi, Chittoor, Andhrapradesh -517001, to the vacant property described in the Schedule hereunder written ("the Property').
The investigation is in respect of a proposed purchase of the property by our client **Mr. K.V. PARAMASHIVAIAH & Mrs. N. CHANDRIKA**
All persons/entities including individuals, Hindu undivided family, company(ies), bank(s), financial institution(s), non-banking financial institution(s), firms, association of persons or body of individuals whether incorporated or not, lenders and/or creditors having any objection, claim, right, title, benefit, liability, commitment, interest and/or demand of whatsoever nature against/upon/in respect of the Property or any part or portion thereof including development rights, by operation of law or otherwise, assignment, bequest, charge, covenant, care-taker understanding, devise, power of attorney, agreement for sale, memorandum of understanding, exchange, encumbrance, partnership, family arrangement/ settlement, litigation, easement, gift, inheritance, pledge, lease, sublease, lien, attachment, license, lis-pendens, reservation, mortgage, maintenance, succession, possession, right of way, allotment, sale, share, sub-tenancy, tenancy, transfer, partition, release, relinquishment, will, occupation, agreement, or any understanding, or beneficial right/interest under any trust, right of prescription or pre-emption of under any agreement or other disposition or under any decree, order or award passed by any court or authority or otherwise claiming howsoever or claiming to be in custody / possession of the title deeds, documents and writings pertaining thereto or any liability or commitment, demand or otherwise of any nature whatsoever howsoever, to or upon the Property or any part thereof ("Claims") are required to give notice of the same in writing along with relevant documentary proof in that regard to the undersigned at its office as stated below, within **7 (Seven) days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it shall be deemed that the claimant(s) has / have relinquished such Claims and/or waived the right to exercise such Claims and the right, title and interest of the Owner to the Property shall be deemed to be clear and marketable and free from all encumbrances of any nature whatsoever.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of the vacant Site bearing **No. 1388,** vide PID. No. 4312080287, Measuring: East to West: 24.00 Mtrs., and North to South: 15.00 Mtrs., Totally: **360.00 Sq.Mtrs.,** Situated at: **Further Extension of the Sir. M. Vishweshwaraiah Layout, 8th Block, Bangalore,** bounded on the: -
East by : Road, West by : Site No. 1401, North by : Site No. 1389, South by : Site No. 1387.
SHEKHAR LAW ASSOCIATES,
Advocates,
No. 919, 5th Main, M.C. Layout, Near BGS Metro Station, Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560040, M : 8197957197

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:
E-Tender Notice No.: Y/E.29/2024-25/58 Dated: 04.10.2024

Item of work	Approx. Value
Provision of Solar plants at Mysuru (MYS) and Pandavapura (PANP) Railway Station with Hybrid Inverters.	Rs. 43,43,547/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 25.10.2024**
E-Tender Notice No.: Y/E.29/2024-25/59 Dated: 04.10.2024

Item of work	Approx. Value
Provision of Solar Plants on Leftover Railway Stations, Service Buildings, LC gates and Staff quarters over Mysuru Division.	Rs. 9,53,86,320/-

Last date for submission of bids : **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 25.10.2024**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/General/ Mysuru
PUB/491/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public are hereby informed that my Client **LALITHA JAYARAMAN @ J.LALITHA** Wife of Sri.Jayaraman.N now at Flat No.C-804, Magnifica Block, Brigade Gardenia, RBI Layout, J.P.Nagar, 7th Phase, BANGALORE - is the full and absolute owner by title and in actual possession enjoyment of the property described in the Schedule hereunder. My client represents that she acquired the Schedule Property from her vendor Sri.S.Rathinasabapathy in terms of a Sale Deed dated 29/11/1988 registered as Document No.119/1989 in Book-I, Volume-405 at pages 403 to 407 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Madras. My Client states that the original Sale Deed dated 15/11/1988 registered as Document No.5153/1988 in Book-I in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Anna Nagar, Madras, under which my client's vendor purchased the Schedule Property is either lost in transit or mislaid. Any person/s finding the Original Sale Deed dated 15/11/1988 registered as Document No.5153/1988 in Book-I in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Anna Nagar, Madras, may deliver the same to the undersigned forthwith. My client has lodged a complaint before the jurisdictional police regarding loss of title deed on 08/10/2024. Other than my Client if any person/s were to deal with the said original Sale Deed dated 15/11/1988 the same will not be binding on my Client and such person/s will not derive any right, title to or interest and such transaction will be void-ab-initio.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of land and building situated in the sanctioned plan of the Korattur Neighbourhood Scheme, bearing Plot No.L-666, comprised in Survey Nos.1276 part, 1285 part and 1283/2B part of Korattur Village, Saidapet Taluk, Chenglepet District, measuring NIL Ground and measuring East to West 60 Feet and North to South 40 Feet in all measuring 2400 Sq. Feet and bounded by: **East** : Plot No.667; **West** : Plot No.665; **North** : Plot Nos.671, 670 & 669; **South** : 30Feet Road.
Bangalore, Dt : 14/10/2024.
Sri. K. P. RUPESH KUMAR Advocate, " LAW CORP "
No. 98/2-27, Mohan Towers, Residency Road,
BANGALORE – 560 001. Mo: 9886761765

FAITH

Don't see why he can't succeed in Australia: Kumble on Jaiswal

K. MURALI KUMAR

Anil Kumble said he does not see any reason why young opener Yashasvi Jaiswal "cannot succeed in Australia". "His technique and hunger for runs will be key. He has been prolific throughout this WTC cycle. and his versatility will serve him well, especially on challenging tours like Australia," Kumble told JioCinema.

BEWARE!

Kohli's focus on winning makes him even more dangerous: Hesson

K. MURALI KUMAR

Mike Hesson says that Virat Kohli is now focused on winning games for India rather than personal milestones. The New Zealander said this makes Kohli even more dangerous as big scores will come naturally. Kohli's ability to 'hold a tempo' and 'counter-attack remains crucial for India's success in Australia.

REALITY

We were beaten by a better side in a 'knockout' game, says Lewis

REUTERS

Head coach Jon Lewis opened up about England's shock ouster from the Women's T20 World Cup after the loss to West Indies in a group fixture. "The reality of the situation is we didn't play well enough and we got beat by a better side on the day. So that's World Cup sport and it's a knockout game," Lewis said.

PRAYERS ANSWERED

'I was on the edge of my seat when my name came up in HIL auction'

REUTERS

On the edge of his seat during Hockey India League auction, Harmanpreet Singh silently prayed that Sardar Singh from Soorma Hockey Club make a winning bid for him. "I was on the edge of my seat when my name came up during the auction. I urged Sardar to bid for me so that I get to play for the Haryana-Punjab region."

Opening day washed out as rain has the final say

India-New Zealand Test series gets off to a wet start; there's a forecast for more showers and play is likely to be affected on Thursday too; the Kiwis' ill-luck with the weather continues

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

On the job: The groundsmen were kept busy as rain affected proceedings on the first day in Bengaluru on Wednesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Persistent rain had the final say on the opening day of the first Test between India and New Zealand here on Wednesday. No play was possible, with action being called off just after tea.

The brave spectators gathered at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium waited patiently and hoped for the best.

Lively moment

There were cheers when Virat Kohli and other India cricketers walked along the boundary, but these lively moments were few and far between.

Hopes were raised when rain stopped in the afternoon session. At around 2 p.m., the groundspersons entered the field to remove some of the covers.

The umpires, Paul Reiffel and Michael Gough, made their way out for an inspection.

The duo were not happy with a few wet strips beside the pitch. This prompted the groundspersons to scurry in with hessian for extra cover.

On the television broadcast, former India wicketkeeper Saba Karim informed viewers that even if play was possible once the covers are removed, the mandatory Hawk-Eye formatting process would take about 90 minutes to complete.

Just as work gathered pace, a dark cover emerged above. Rain came down hard again, and this time, the umpires had seen enough.

New Zealand's bad luck with rain in India continued. Only last month, the one-off Test against Afghanistan at Noida was called off without a ball being bowled. The first two days of the game were cancelled because of a wet outfield, while the remaining three days were washed out.

With more rain predicted here on Thursday, the wait could be extended.

Australia the firm favourite, but South Africa gunning for revenge

WOMEN'S T20 WC

Lavanya L
DUBAI

South Africa has only beaten Australia twice ever in the women's game. Both wins came this year, once each in the T20I and ODI formats.

The Proteas skipper, Laura Wolvaardt, drew great confidence from the two victories, but a sense of deja vu prevailed as her side headed for a rematch of last year's T20 World Cup summit clash in the first semifinal of this year's edition here on Thursday.

In 10 T20Is – seven of them in the World Cup – Australia has registered nine wins, including a 19-run win to deny South Africa its maiden World title in front of its home crowd in Cape Town last year.

In the current chapter, South Africa has won three of its four group games, falling only to England in Sharjah. Australia has remained unbeaten in the T20 extragavanza, not just in the group stage here but ever since it clinched the title in 2020.

Against New Zealand, while the top three batters began strongly, the Australian middle-order crumbled without resistance, something the Proteas will attempt to focus on. But the real challenge for Wolvaardt's side will be to keep the top-order in check.

South Africa has played three of its four group matches in Dubai. Openers Wolvaardt and Tazmin Brits, who had a great outing against the West Indies at this venue, will hope for an encore. In Megan Schutt and Marizanne Kapp, the semifinal will witness two of the best pace bowling veterans who also top the dot ball chart (61 and 58) in this tournament.

Alyssa Healy's availability for the big clash is still in doubt as the Australian captain opted not to train ahead of the game.

Match starts at 7.30 p.m. IST.

Momentum vs. moment: It will be a battle between a rampant Australia and a resilient South Africa. AP & REUTERS

> South Africa is just as tough a competition as any other team, especially when you're playing a World Cup semifinal
>
> **ELLYSE PERRY**
> Australia all-rounder

> The last time we faced them in a World Cup, we had never ever beaten them before. Now knowing what we have achieved will, hopefully, give us confidence
>
> **LAURA WOLVAARDT**
> South Africa captain

In the pantheon: Cook, Neetu and de Villiers entered the elite zone. ICC

Neetu, de Villiers and Cook inducted into ICC Hall of Fame

Press Trust of India
DUBAI

Former India spinner Neetu David, who still holds the record for the best figures (eight for 53) by a woman in an individual Test innings, on Wednesday became only the second female cricketer from the country to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame.

South African legend AB de Villiers and former England captain Alastair Cook were also inducted along with David.

David, the current chairman of selectors for Indian women's team, enters the ICC Hall of Fame a year after the induction of former captain Diana Edulji.

David made more than 100 appearances (10 Tests and 97 ODIs) for India as a prolific left-arm spinner and was inducted alongside South Africa and England legends AB de Villiers and Alastair Cook, joining a long list of great cricketers.

The 47-year-old David is the second-highest wicket-taker for India in ODIs cricket with 141 scalps and was also the first female player from the country to claim 100 wickets in the 50-over game.

Topping the wicket-taking list at the World Cup in 2005, to inspire her country to their first-ever final, is also among her standout achievements.

David said in an ICC release: "It is truly an honour to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame, something that I consider to be the highest recognition available to anyone who puts on their national team jersey.

"This comes after a lifetime of dedication to this great sport, and caps a very special journey for me".

You're the most talented I've played with: Kohli to ABD

Press Trust of India
DUBAI

Virat Kohli on Wednesday described AB de Villiers as "the most talented cricketer" he has played with after the South African great was inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame.

De Villers was included in the long list of great players along with England legend Alastair Cook and India's Neetu David.

In an open letter to the inductees by those close to them, Kohli was effusive in praise of his teammate at IPL side Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

"You are thoroughly deserving of your place - after all, the Hall of Fame is a representation of your impact on the game, and yours has been truly unique," he wrote.

"People have always spoken about your ability, and rightly so. You are the most talented cricketer I have played with, the absolute number one." Kohli described de Villiers' belief and doggedness to uphold the game's values as the qualities that had an impact on the psyche of those watching.

"A lot of players can have impressive numbers but very few have an impact on the psyche of those watching," he wrote.

"Through my time playing with and against you, you always had a very clear understanding of how the game should be played and you never really veered from that, regardless of whether you were doing well or not," he added.

Kohli said de Villiers taught him about the importance of not resting on laurels.

Meanwhile, Diana Edulji, the first woman cricketer from India to be inducted into the Hall of Fame, hailed Neetu.

"To me, you were one of the best spinners I have ever seen. Your technique and skill that allowed you to generate such flight and dip was par excellence," Diana said in a letter to Neetu.

High praise: Kohli feels de Villiers thoroughly deserves his induction into the Hall of Fame.

Welcome to the group: Edulji lauded Neetu on her inclusion in the illustrious club. FILE PHOTOS

Sajid's strikes eclipse Duckett's masterclass

Agence France-Presse
MULTAN

Pakistan spinner Sajid Khan took three wickets in the space of 10 deliveries, including that of centurion Ben Duckett, to leave England on 239 for six in the second Test on Wednesday.

An absorbing second day's play on a pitch aiding spin ultimately belonged to the hosts, who lead by 127 runs after their first innings score of 366.

England was cruising at 211 for two when Sajid removed Joe Root (34), Duckett (114) and Harry Brook (9) in the final session.

From the other end, fellow spinner Noman Ali dismissed England skipper Ben Stokes for one as a suddenly rattled England lost four wickets in the space of 14 runs.

At the close, Jamie Smith and Brydon Carse were at the crease with 12 and two respectively.

Before England's slide it was Duckett who dominated, cracking 16 boundaries in his knock during which he also crossed 2,000 runs in his 28th Test.

Earlier, Pakistan's tail had frustrated England by adding 107 runs after resuming at 259-5, with Jamal and Noman adding an invaluable 49 runs for the ninth wicket.

The scores: Pakistan 366 in 123.3 overs (Ghulam 118, Ayub 77, Rizwan 41, Jamal 37, Noman 32; Leach 4/114, Carse 3/50) vs. England 239/6 in 53 overs (Duckett 114, Root 34; Sajid 4/86).

The broom is out: Duckett employed both the conventional and reverse sweep to rattle the spinners on way to his hundred. AFP

AITA plea in Delhi HC to release election results

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

The All India Tennis Association (AITA) on Monday filed an application in the Delhi High Court, requesting the sealed cover containing the results of the elections held at the Annual General Meeting to be opened.

Petition

The court is hearing a petition, filed by former India players Somdev Devvarman and Purav Raja, into Sports Code violations by the federation.

Devvarman and Raja had sought a stay on the elections held on September 28.

AITA and the Sports Ministry have two more weeks to file their response to the writ petition.

While the court did not stay the elections, it issued an order according to which, "The Election shall remain subject to the outcome of the instant writ petition.

Let the result of the Election be placed in a sealed cover by the Election Officer, meaning thereby, the result of the Election shall not be published."

The matter will next be heard on November 25.

INBRIEF

Hat-trick Messi shines in Argentina's thumping win

Lionel Messi scored his 10th international hat-trick to raise his career total to 112 goals and also had a pair of assists to lead Argentina over Bolivia 6-0 in a World Cup qualifier on Tuesday. Rival Brazil and under-pressure coach Dorival Junior got some relief with a convincing performance in a 4-0 home win against Peru. Argentina leads South American qualifying with 22 points after 10 matches, three points clear of second-placed Colombia, which beat Chile 4-0.

The results: Colombia 4 (Sanchez 34, Diaz 52, Duran 82, Sinisterra 90+3) bt Chile 0; Paraguay 2 (Sanabria 59, 74) bt Venezuela 1 (Aramburu 25); Uruguay 0 drew with Ecuador 0; Argentina 6 (Messi 19, 84, 86, Martinez 43, Alvarez 45+3, Almada 69) bt Bolivia 0; Brazil 4 (Raphinha 38-pen), 54-pen, Pereira 71, Henrique 74) bt Peru 0.

Bad day for Indian shuttlers at the Denmark Open

Satish Kumar Karunakaran (men's singles), Unnati Hooda (women's singles), Treesa Jolly & Gayatri Gopichand (women's doubles) and B. Sumeeth Reddy & N. Sikki Reddy (mixed doubles) suffered defeats in the opening round of the Denmark Open Super 750 badminton tournament in Odense on Wednesday.

The results (first round): Men: Li Yang Su (Tpe) bt Satish Kumar Karunakaran 21-15, 17-21, 22-20.
Women: Singles: Lauren Lam (USA) bt Unnati Hooda 21-15, 13-21, 21-18. **Doubles:** Pearly Tan & Muralitharan Thinaah (Mas) bt Treesa Jolly & Gayatri Gopichand 19-21, 21-17, 21-15.
Mixed doubles: Kevin Lee & Eliana (Can) bt Sumeeth Reddy & Sikki Reddy 20-22, 21-19, 24-22.

New Delhi to host kho kho World Cup in January

The inaugural kho kho World Cup will be held at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi from January 13 to 19 next year, the Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) announced at a press conference on Wednesday.

Spain sails through, Scotland holds Portugal

Cristiano Ronaldo was held scoreless and Portugal lost its perfect record in the Nations League after a 0-0 draw against Scotland in Glasgow. Alvaro Morata scored about 10 minutes after missing a penalty kick as Spain defeated Serbia 3-0 to secure a spot in the quarterfinals.

Important results: League A: Group 1: Scotland 0 drew with Portugal 0; Poland 3 (Zielinski 5, Zalewski 45, Szymanski 68) drew with Croatia 3 (Sosa 19, Sucic 24, Baturina 26). **A4:** Spain 3 (Laporte 5, Morata 65, Baena 77) bt Serbia 0; Switzerland 2 (Freuler 26, Amdouni 45+1-pen) drew with Denmark 2 (Isaksen 27, Eriksen 69).

Cricket Australia announces 2025-26 Ashes schedule

Cricket Australia said on Wednesday that the five-Test Ashes series between Australia and England in 2025-26 will begin in Perth, Western Australia.

The schedule: First Test: Perth, Nov. 21-25, 2025; Second Test: Brisbane (D/N), Dec. 4-8; Third Test: Adelaide, Dec. 17-21; Fourth Test: Melbourne, Dec. 26-30; Fifth Test: Sydney, Jan. 4-8, 2026.

Mhambrey rejoins Mumbai Indians as bowling coach

Former India bowling coach Paras Mhambrey on Wednesday rejoined five-time IPL champion Mumbai Indians in a similar role. Mhambrey had earlier worked with the MI during its title-winning campaign in IPL 2013 and in the Champions League T20 in 2010, 2011 and 2013.

LIVE TELECAST

India vs New Zealand: 1st Test, day 2, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 9.15 a.m.
Pakistan vs England: 2nd Test, day 3, FanCode, 10.30 a.m.
Sri Lanka vs West Indies: 3rd T20I, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 p.m.
Women's T20 World Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
ISL: Sports 18-3 & JioCinema, 7.30 p.m.

Akhil clinches rifle 3-position bronze

China on top of the medals table with four gold and three bronze; India, with one silver and a bronze, is joint sixth with Denmark

SHOOTING WC FINAL

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

Akhil Sheoran spectacularly rose to third place in the rifle 3-position event in the World Cup Final at the Dr. Karni Singh range in Tughlakabad on Wednesday.

It was the second medal for the host after the silver on the opening day by Sonam Maskar. Incidentally, both Akhil and Sonam were two of the four shooters who had got direct entry into the prestigious championship.

The 29-year-old Akhil finished behind two of the finest rifle shooters in the world, Istvan Peni of Hungary and Jiri Privratsky of Czechia after having bridged the gap to 0.6 points before the last shot. He was placed fifth last year in the championship in Doha. Olympian Chain Singh also made the final with a score of 590 but finished seventh.

World record holder Rhythm Sangwan gave herself a chance for a medal in sports pistol, but lost a shoot-off against Camille Jedrejewski of France and Feng Sixuan of China, after being tied on 27, and placed fourth.

Simranpreet Kaur Brar also made the final in which she shot three rounds of perfect-5, but erred in the shoot-off, losing by one point to the eventual gold medallist Josefin Eder of Germany.

The men's 25-metre rapid fire pistol shooters, Vijayveer Sidhu (581) and Anish Bhanwala (580) missed the final narrowly.

Similarly, in the women's rifle 3-position event, Ashi Chouksey agonisingly missed the final as China's Xia Siyu made it based on a better inner-10 score of 31-30 after the two were tied on 587.

In the shotgun events of trap and skeet, which will have the finals on Thursday, Ganemat Sekhon made the women's skeet final in style by shooting a National record 122 out of 125. Vivaan Kapoor made the men's trap final with the second-best score of 120, behind James Willett (122) of Australia.

Anantjeet Singh Naruka (121) and Mairaj Ahmad Khan (119) advanced in men's skeet.

Shreyasi Singh missed the women's trap final after a shoot-off, on being tied for the last two spots with three others with a score of 114. It was a commendable fare from her on the second day, to shoot 48 out of 50, after having dropped nine birds on the opening day.

China was on top of the medals table with four gold and three bronze. The four other gold medals have been won by Germany, France, Hungary and Denmark. India was joint sixth with Denmark, with one silver and a bronze.

All smiles: Privratsky, champion Peni, Akhil, with the ISSF president Rossi, flanked by Asian president Al Sabah and NRAI president Kalikesh Deo. KAMESH SRINIVASAN

The results: Men: 25m rapid fire pistol: 1. Li Yuehong (Chn) 34 (588); 2. Florian Peter (Ger) 30 (587); 3. Wang Xinjie (Chn) 23 (586); 7. Vijayveer Sidhu 581; 9. Anish Bhanwala 580.

50m rifle 3-position: 1. Istvan Peni (Hun) 465.3 (592); 2. Jiri Privratsky (Cze) 464.2 (593); 3. Akhil Sheoran 452.6 (589); 7. Chain Singh 409.3 (590).

Women: 25m sports pistol: 1. Josefin Eder (Ger) 36 (582); 2. Camille Jedrejewski (Fra) 35 (588); 3. Feng Sixuan (Chn) 31 (589); 4. Rhythm Sangwan 27 (584); 6. Simranpreet Kaur Brar 20 (585). **50m rifle 3-position:** 1. Rikke Ibsen (Den) 466.2 (590); 2. Jeanette Duestad (Nor) 465.6 (591); 3. Han Jiayu (Chn) 453.7 (593); 9. Ashi Chouksey 587; 10. Nischal 585.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Aneesh at the helm

K.V. Aneesh will lead Karnataka in the P. Ramachandra Rao Memorial (U-25) Trophy to be held here from Oct. 17

The squad: K.V. Aneesh (Capt.), Rohan A. Patil, L.R. Chethan, Akshan Rao, Shubhang Hegde, Krishiv Bajaj, Nishchith Pai, Bheem Rao, Aaditya Nair, Rajvir Wadhwa, B.N. Yashwanth, A.C. Rohith Kumar, Lochan S. Gowda, Madhava Dharwadkar, Rajendra Danganavar.

Aneeshwar to lead C.K. Nayudu squad

Aneeshwar Gautam will lead Karnataka in the Col. C.K. Nayudu (U-23) Trophy match against Tripura from October 20 to 23 in Agartala.

The squad: Aneeshwar Gautam (Capt.), Vishal Onat, Macneil Noronha, Prakhar Chaturvedi, Harshil Dharmani, Yashovardhan Parantap, Kruthik Krishna, L. Manvanth Kumar, Monish Reddy, K. Shashikumar, Paras Gurbax Arya, Nathan D'Mello, Sanjay Ashwin, Dhanush Gowda, Dhruva Prabhakar.

Akaash in lead

Akaash Ashok Kumar, with a total pinfall of 2433, emerged the leader in the men's division of the 9th K. Damodar & Co. Karnataka State tenpin bowling championships here. Defending champion Girish Gaba was second on 2339 pins while A.V. Sathish was third on 2186.

Rain plays spoilsport; Shrivalli withdraws

The opening round matches of the SKME ITF Open $15,000 women's tennis tournament did not start for a second day running at the KSLTA courts as persistent rain played spoilsport. The competition received another jolt when top seed Shrivalli Rashmikaa Bhamidipaty withdrew on medical grounds. Shrivalli finished runner-up in the ITF Mysore Open on Sunday and will be replaced by a lucky loser.

Southern Blues edges IBBC

Southern Blues pipped IBBC 83-80 in the State A-division men's basketball league championship on Wednesday.

The results: JSC 61 (Sanketh 17, Rohit 15) bt GST & Customs 60 (Samyam 28); Southern Blues 83 (Benjamin 21, Ranga 20, Hareesh 13) bt IBBC 80 (Suresh 24, Jonathan 18, Karan Aiyappa 16).
On Tuesday: DYES Bangalore 60 (Kushal 22, Manoj 20) bt JSC 56 (Dinesh 17, Nihal 16); Southern Blues 80 (Benjamin 22, Dencil 12) bt Vivek's SC 62 (Sanjay 16, Vinod 12); Beagles BC 71 (Suraj 28, Achintya 20) bt IBBC 68 (Yashas 18, Karan Aiyappa 15).

Shamanth and Nihal star in Vidyaniketan's narrow win

Shamanth Sai scalped five wickets (5/19) and Nihal scored 33 as Vidyaniketan School registered a narrow three-wicket win over Jain International School, Bangarapet in the KM Ramprasad Shield U-16 School third division tournament.

The scores: Jain IS, Bangarapet 87 in 25 overs (Darshan 25, Shamanth Sai 5/19) lost to Vidyaniketan 88/7 in 13.5 overs (Nihal 33).
Air Force School 108 in 24.4 overs (Rohith 30, Kalash G. Newar 3/25) lost to Presidency School, Bangalore North 109/6 in 17.4 overs (Kalash G. Newar 25).
Vibgyor, Horamavu 189/7 in 29 overs (Ram Alla 42, Datta Shashank 60, Pranshu 3/39) bt Whitefield Global 130 in 21.5 overs (Vivaan 38, Easwar 34, Akil Kumar 4/30).
Zen International 144/5 in 30 overs (Elwin 3/7) bt NPS, Kengeri 57 in 15.2 overs (Roshan 3/18).
NPS, Whitefield 124 in 23.5 overs (Dhruva 3/21, Arnava 3/22) lost to JSS, BSK 125/1 in 22 overs (Adarsh 48).
Soundarya Central 94 in 26.2 overs (Shamanth 4/13) lost to Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidya Mandir B-82 97/2 in 15.4 overs (Ruchitaksh 49).
Sri Aurobindo Memorial 148/7 in 28 overs (Kavy Dugar 28, Arghya 34, Krishna 33, Dinesh 3/17) bt Gopalan IS 74 in 20.2 overs (Bhaasvan 25, Kavy 3/10).
DPS, Whitefield 199/4 in 24 overs (Ayan Mukherjee 62, Jairaj 40) bt Mirambika 125 in 19.4 overs (Aditya 3/15).
Nagarjuna Vidyaniketan 76 in 20.1 overs lost to New Baldwin IS B-106 77/3 in 9.1 overs.
DPS, Electronic City 153/9 in 30 overs (Vedanth 32, Anshuman 39) lost to National Hill View PS 154/3 in 27.2 overs (Dheemanth Kumar 63, Samarth Sunil 43, Parinith 24).
St. Francis School, ICSE 207/4 in 30 overs (Pravin Vijay 31, Mahith Bandi 84, Harsha 68) bt Holy Cross School 57 in 20.1 overs (Unnath Shetty 3/6).
Vidya Bharathi 187/6 in 28 overs (Deeraj 79, Karthik 27, Kaushal 3/48) bt Baldwin BHS 128 in 22.1 overs (Darshan 54, Rohith Raj 3/28, Karthik 3/7).
Capitol PS 167/5 in 29 overs (Hemanth 47) bt Vibgyor High, HSR 168/7 in 27.5 overs (Krithik Sai 27, Vaasudevan 3/41).
Sri Chaitanya Techno School, B-10 143/6 in 20 overs (Hemank 33) lost to Sri Vani PS B-10 144/5 in 18 overs (Hridhaan 30, Yashwanth 42).
Gnanodhaya IS 83 in 20.1 overs (Tushith Kumar 50, Sasmith S. Shetty 3/11, Aarav Jain 4/17) lost to NPS, Yeshwanthpur 84/1 in 8.3 overs (Ansh Porwal 46, Sasmith S. Shetty 28).
Jyothi Kendriya Vidyalaya 68 in 17.4 overs (Sachit Galatagi 4/15) bt Alpine 67 in 23.4 overs (Nayan 3/27, Tarun 3/16, Shashank 3/14).
Deccan IS 84 in 24 overs (Vallabh 4/31) lost to NPS, B-8 85/2 in 10.3 (Vedanth Sharma 48).

Akshunna delivers for FC Bengaluru United

Akshunna Tyagi scored the winner as FC Bengaluru United edged out Kodagu FC 1-0 in the UrbanRise BDFA Super Division football league here on Wednesday.

The results: Real Chikkamagaluru FC 0 drew with Bangalore Independents FC 0; FC Real Bengaluru 1 (Sahil Suresh 45+1) drew with Kickstart FC 1 (Crispin C. Cleetus 11); FC Bengaluru United 1 (Akshunna Tyagi 78) bt Kodagu FC 0.

It's Ravishing Form vs. Segera

MYSURU: Ravishing Form and Segera may fight out the finish of the K.T. Shamaiah Gowda Memorial Trophy (1,400m), the main event of the races to be held here on Thursday (Oct. 17). False rails (width about 6m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 CHIRAPUNJI PLATE (1,400m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over, 2-30 p.m.: 1. Akasi (3) Arvind K 61.5, 2. Double Vision (5) Shreyas S 61.5, 3. D Fighter (4) Salman Khan 61, 4. Square Cut (1) Faiz 60.5, 5. Burst Of Blaze (8) P. Sai Kumar 59, 6. Stone House (6) Prabha K 58.5, 7. Fleet Tactical (7) Kiran Rai 57 and 8. Bacchus (2) R. Shiva Kumar 50.5.
1. DOUBLE VISION, 2. SQUARE CUT, 3. AKASI

2 AUTUMN BLUE PLATE (1,200m), rated 00 to 25 3-00: 1. Domina (4) A. Ramu 62.5, 2. Bundelkhand Queen (12) Md. Imran Ashraf 60, 3. Kalashnikov (3) Prabhu K 60, 4. Ankush (7) Kiran Rai 59, 5. Epsom Downs (2) Koshi K 58.5, 6. City Of Hustle (6) A. Baandal 57.5, 7. Tankinika (10) Salman Khan 56, 8. Master Victory (9) Antony 55, 9. Sacred Creator (11) Angad 55, 10. Just Blues (1) Arvind K 54.5, 11. Dhurandar (8) Abhishek Mhatre 54 and 12. D United (5) M. Rajesh K 51.
1. DOMINA, 2. SACRED CREATOR, 3. MASTER VICTORY

3 K. THAMMANNA GOWDA MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. N R I Ace (4) Shivam 61, 2. Heroism (12) Faiz 60, 3. Smart Cadillac (3) Akimasa P 59, 4. Perfect Perfecto (1) Md. Mushraf 58, 5. Sparking Night (8) Shrikant Kamble 58, 6. Born Dancer (2) Afsar Khan 57, 7. Real Show (5) Angad 55, 8. Biometric (11) Ayaz Khan 53.5, 9. Cloudy Hills (10) L.A. Rozario 53.5, 10. Tarek (7) Salman Khan 53.5, 11. Lucky Point (9) Jagadeesh 53 and 12. Sira (6) G. Vivek 52.5.
1. N R I ACE, 2. SIRA, 3. CLOUDY HILLS

4 K.T. SHAMAIAH GOWDA MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m), rated 80 & above, 4-00: 1. Amazing A One (8) S. Brahmmesh 65, 2. Iron Clad (1) Afsar Khan 62.5, 3. Dun It Again (4) P. Siddaraju 57, 4. Segera (7) Angad 55.5, 5. Ravishing Form (2) Antony 55, 6. Spectacular (5) Jagadeesh 52, 7. Havelock Cruise (3) Ayaz Khan 50 and 8. Prince Corporate (6) P.P. Dhebe 50.
1. RAVISHING FORM, 2. SEGERA, 3. PRINCE CORPORATE

5 KARAPUR PLATE (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 4-30: 1. Sekhmet (13) Antony 62, 2. Trump Baby (9) Ayaz Khan 62, 3. Worldly Wise (6) A. Baandal 60, 4. Leopard (3) M. Rajesh K 59, 5. Super Kind (4) R. Pradeep 58.5, 6. The Golden Sunrise (8) Afsar Khan 57.5, 7. Ineffable (10) S. Imran 57, 8. Mega Success (2) Jagadeesh 55, 9. D Lord (11) B.R. Kumar 54.5, 10. Infinite Spirit (-) (-) 54.5, 11. Jannat (12) R. Shiva Kumar 53.5, 12. Michelle Pride (1) Kiran Rai 53, 13. Sky Storm (7) Angad 53 and 14. Armament (5) Abhishek Mhatre 52.
1. SEKHMET, 2. MEGA SUCCESS, 3. SUPER KIND

6 ONE LIFE TO LOVE PLATE (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Mastery (4) Shrikant Kamble 60, 2. Dornish (1) Faiz 58.5, 3. Vardaan (8) Antony 57.5, 4. Deemed To Fire (7) Angad 56.5, 5. Brocston (3) P.P. Dhebe 55.5, 6. Coyote Girl (2) Akimasa P 55, 7. Natural Light (5) G. Vivek 54.5 and 8. What Is This (6) Kiran Rai 54.
1. VARDAAN, 2. MASTERY, 3. NATURAL LIGHT

Day's best: **VARDAAN**
Double: **DOUBLE VISION – N R I ACE**
Jkt: 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6; Mini Jkt: 3, 4, 5 and 6; Tr (i): 1, 2 and 3; (ii): 4, 5 and 6.

Game, Set, and Match!

Fab four: The grand finale of the inaugural *The Hindu* Match Point Sports Quiz 2024 was held at at the Cricket Club of India in Mumbai on Wednesday. Kunal Baghel and Abhisek Thakur, centre, of Interactive Avenues (New Delhi) emerged champions (₹2 lakh cash prize). Sujay Shetty and Rishabh Thaker (Group M, Mumbai) were second (₹75,000) while Karan and Saqhib of Dentsu Creative (Bengaluru) finished second runner-up. Interactive Avenues' Archit and Harsh were the other finalists. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Tuchel to coach England from 2025

Associated Press
LONDON

Thomas Tuchel was hired as the England coach on Wednesday and will begin his tenure in January ahead of the 2026 WC. Tuchel has won major trophies across Europe and is England's third foreign coach, after the late Sven-Goran Eriksson and Fabio Capello. The 51-year-succeeds one of England's most successful coaches in Gareth Southgate, who led the country to back-to-back European Championship finals and a World Cup semifinals in Russia.